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Staying afloat for 61 years

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Life at sea

One UVic student trades living in res for Victoria's Inner Harbour

Jennifer Gait

Living on a boat might not be everyone's dream — it's cold, it's small and it requires maintenance — but for one UVic student, calling a 34-foot boat home is worth the hassle.

"In 2006, I needed a place to live and I thought a boat would be fun," said Tony Trepanier, an international student from Spokane, Wash.

Having taken 18-foot boats out on weekends when he was younger, Trepanier knew what he was looking for — something larger. He found a motor cruiser moored on the Olympic Peninsula on Craigslist and bought it for US$12,000. Originally nameless, it is now called Eerie Escape after the dinghy (a small boat) Trepanier later acquired.

Mooring in the Inner Harbour seemed the best bet for a student.

"The city marinas are just the best way to go," he said. "They are the cheapest and there are waiting lists at the other marinas."

Living downtown is a big plus for Trepanier, but the Inner Harbour is a very public place to call home. In the summer, the boat owners mingle and chat to one another on the dock, but some tourists can be intrusive.

"You definitely have to keep your curtains shut ... as soon as it get dark," said Trepanier. "People are always trying to peer in.... And the big guy that does the juggling show is right off my bow. You hear the laughter going off every 20 seconds or so. It's like being in a sitcom."

Still, it is quieter than living in residence, he said.

In winter, when it's too chilly to stand around on the dock, the five or six permanent residents in the Inner Harbour rarely see one another. It's bleak inside as well. Despite the efforts of a small blow heater, Eerie Escape, with no insulation, can be bitterly cold. Trepanier often escapes to the public library to study.

See *Boat's future uncertain*, p. 2

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

UVic student Tony Trepanier, 22, calls a 34-foot motor cruiser named the Eerie Explorer his home.

Thefts catch UVic by surprise

Johanna Henderson

Eight backpacks were stolen during last month's final exams held at the McKinnon Gym, in what a university spokesperson is calling an "isolated" rash of thefts.

The thefts occurred on April 9, 10, 11, 12, 15 and 19, with multiple incidents on April 10 and 12, according to Campus Security. Students learned of the thefts through a mass e-mail sent by Undergraduate Admissions and Records on April 17.

Although leaving backpacks at the front of the gymnasium while writing exams is common practice for most UVic students, theft has not been an issue until last semester's sitting.

"I've been kicking around for about 13 years and we haven't had any memorable thefts like this in all that time during exam periods," said Thomas Downie, assistant director of Campus Security services.

Downie said that the thefts are most likely the work of a single individual who was not writing the exams. Reports filed with Saanich police estimate the value in most of the bags to be between $1,200 and $1,600.

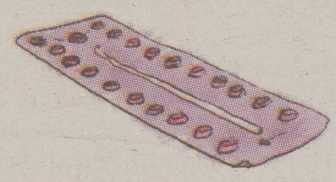
"In one case, the girl's credit card was used twice before she was able to cancel it," said Saanich police spokesperson Sgt. John Price. "That's obviously a lead for us."

Although there are currently no suspects, Saanich police are continuing to investigate. Like Downie, Price is also unable to recall any thefts of this magnitude during exams at UVic.

"I've been policing for 18 years and I don't remember that happening when I went to university in the late '80s," he said. "At the same time, we didn't have laptops and iPods and cellphones in our backpacks."

See *Guarding belongings*, p. 2

TOP STORIES



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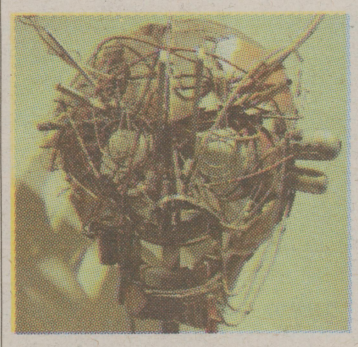

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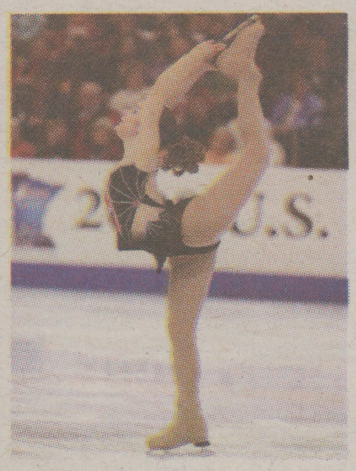

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This month in Martlet history

May 21, 1998 — Langford RCMP officers arrested five female protesters who chained themselves to logging equipment on Costco's construction site. The 10-acre plot contained eight acres of Garry Oak trees. Firefighters had to cut the women's chains. The protesters blocked traffic on Millstream Road.

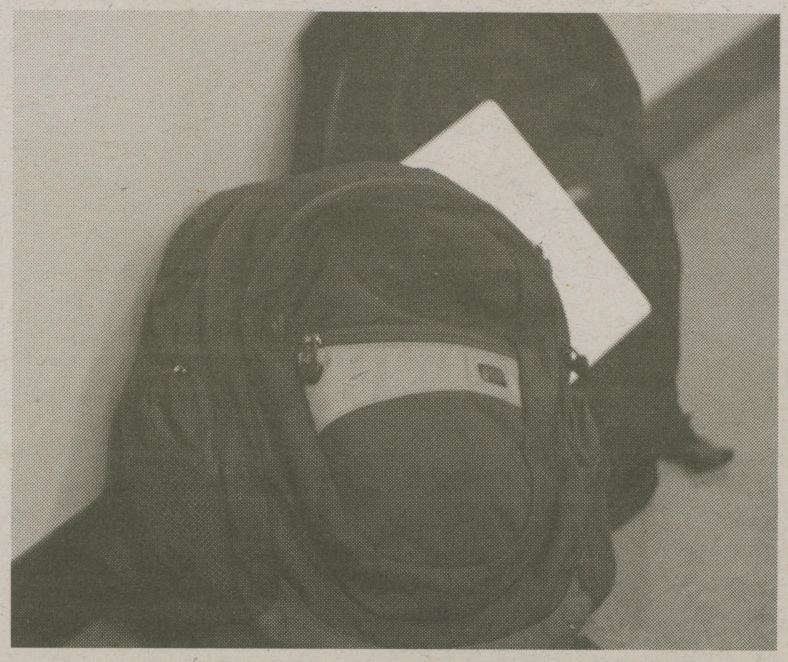
May 26, 1994 — The federal government announced plans to increase the student loan limit by 57 per cent. The increase gave full-time students a maximum limit of $5,610 per academic term, up from $3,596 in the 1993-94 school year. The loan limit for part-time students increased from $2,500 to $4,000. The same day the increases were announced, the Student Financial Assistance Bill was introduced in Parliament. Proposals in the legislation included loan repayment reduction through deferred grants and interest relief, income contingent loan repayment plans, and creating Special Opportunity Grants for students with disabilities, part-time students and women in doctoral studies.

Stories from the Martlet archives

May 17, 1984 — The summer unemployment rate hit 45 per cent in Victoria, meaning fewer jobs than ever before for students. The federally-sponsored Career Oriented Student Employment Program at UVic teamed up with various faculties to create 125 new jobs for students. The Douglas Street employment office "[spread] the money out as thin as possible," which meant lower pay for students but more jobs. Under these career-related work programs, project leaders earned $214 per week and assistants made $147, largely in private sectors and the tourism industry. Over 250 students were filing into the Douglas Street office per day.

Continued from p. 1

Guarding belongings during exams is student responsbiliity



JODIE THOMSON PHOTO

Saanich police are investigating a rash of thefts that occurred during exam period.

Lauren Charlton, UVic's associate registrar of records and registrarial services, was the author of the mass e-mail to students warning them of the thefts. Charlton said Campus Security has never managed the safety of personal belongings during examinations.

"It's the student's responsibility to look after their own belongings," she said.

Charlton also noted that Campus Security had been maintaining a presence in the gym during exams in the wake of the thefts, but that there are no plans for them to maintain a presence during future exam periods.

"[The thefts were] seen as an anomaly," she said. "We're just monitoring the situation to see whether there are any other incidents that occur."

Charlton will be adding a supplement to the academic calendar and sending out another mass e-mail in December warning students to take precautions during exams.

As for why the thefts caught students and staff off guard, Price suggested that the crimes violated the communal nature of the university.

"Somebody has taken advantage of people's sense of trust and really a sense of community," he said. "UVic is a community unto itself. Either a visitor to UVic or a student at UVic has breached that trust, and shame on them."

Anyone with information on the thefts is encouraged to contact Saanich police or Campus Security.

"Generally [these] people don't operate totally in isolation," said Downie.

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

Living on a boat moored downtown has its drawbacks, but Tony Trepanier wouldn't have it any other way.

Continued from p. 1

Boat's future uncertain after owner graduates

He initially thought that living aboard would be cheaper than living ashore. His moorage fees — $213 per month in the winter and $400 per month in the summer — include electricity, water and 24-hour use of the showers and toilets inside the Tourism Information Centre on the causeway. But he estimates the overall cost to be the same as living in residence.

"It's the maintenance you have to do on the boat," he said. "Things break down. The engine, the water pump and the batteries stopped working."

The batteries turned out to be the least expensive — all they needed was more water.

"I'd only experienced maintenance-free batteries before," he said. "When I tell people my age about it they say, 'You have to put water in batteries?'"

But living downtown and the ability to take the boat out on the water makes up for the inconveniences, said Trepanier. With twin Chevrolet 305 engines (named because they are 305 cubic inches) adapted for marine use, the boat can cruise at 20 knots (roughly 37 kilometres per hour).

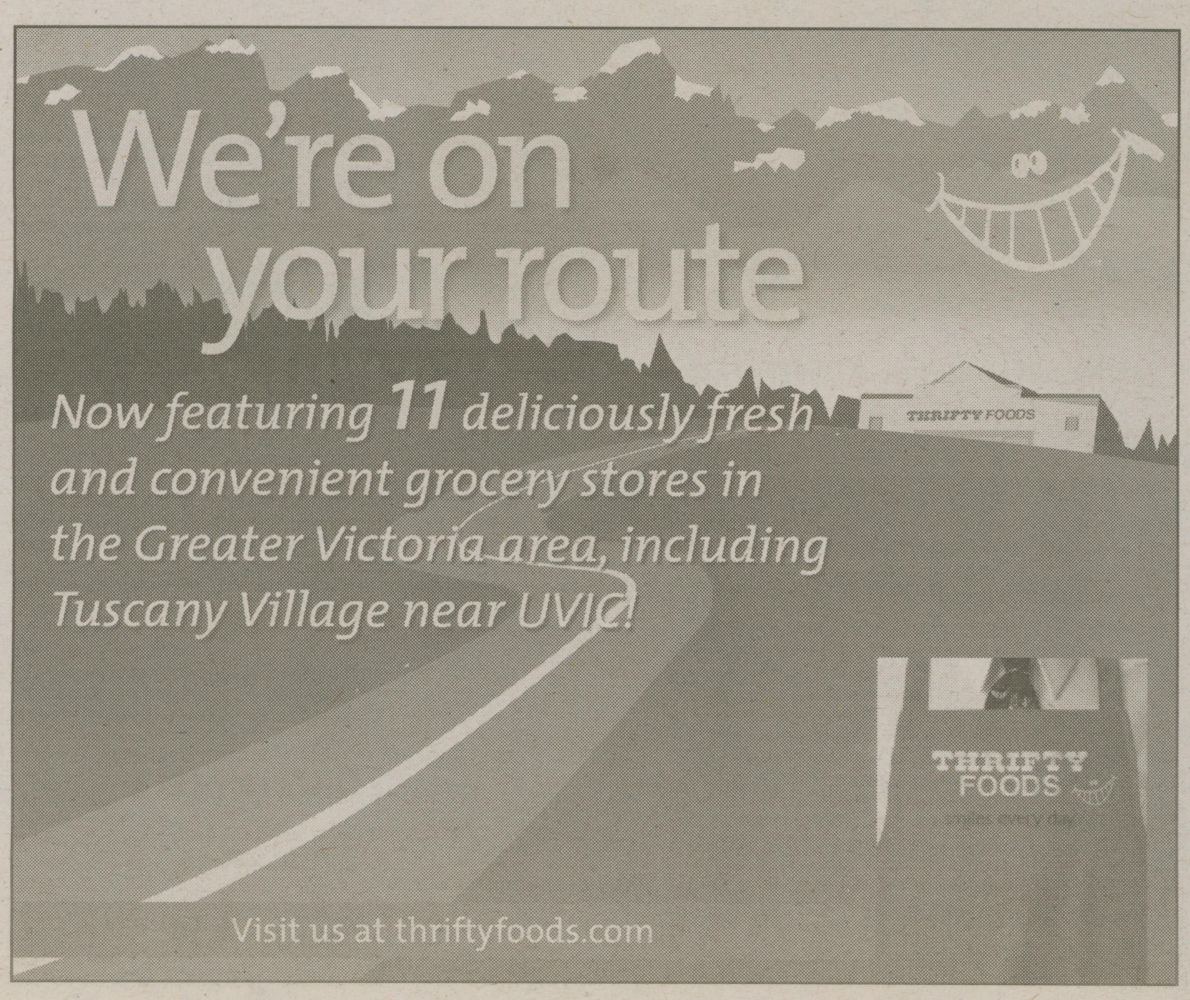
He would like to take it out more than the five or six times per summer he has averaged so far, but the powerful engines have a drawback: "They drink a lot," he said.

Trepanier makes boat life sound tame, but there are moments of excitement. One night he was awakened by a loud ringing. Stumbling half-asleep in pitch dark onto the deck, he found that the noise came from a bell he had seen on his boat before but thought was not attached to anything. It turned out he had inadvertently flipped off the switch to the bilge pump, and the bell was signalling that the water under the floorboards had risen too high.

This fall, Trepanier will graduate with a degree in economics. He is undecided as to what he will do with Eeerie Escape.

"I'm leaning toward selling her in the summer after classes," he said. "It would be nice to have some money after graduation, and I wouldn't have to pay for moorage."

Before then, he may get some last trips on the water.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Krista Nugent, esthelician and waxing specialist formerly of ECO CHIC Salon and Spa is now in business at Iaso Bodyworks. She can be reached at 661.1562 or by email at kristaiasobodyworks@gmail.com
IASO

Stop hogging logging rights: critics

Wood manufacturers say the B.C. government can help the economy by redistributing forest tenures

Tim Lindsay

Most of the rights to log on public forest lands are held by just a few lumber companies, a situation decried by value-added businesses who say they can't find enough willing suppliers of wood.

"We need access to wood but the policies that have come in recent years make it extremely difficult to get any wood," said Russ Cameron, president of the Independent Lumber Remanufacturers Association. "It's worse than it's ever been right now because of industry consolidation over the last 10 or 15 years. On the B.C. coast, pretty much all the public timber is held by Western Forest Products."

The provincial government uses agreements called tenures to grant companies the right to log on public land. Cameron said the government should redistribute these tenures, which were granted freely several decades ago to companies willing to invest in mills and provide employment.

MARK JUNKER GRAPHIC

> A government commission recommended reallocating at least 50 per cent of the tenures to smaller companies, communities and First Nations.

"Get rid of the current tenures — 100 per cent," said Cameron. "If the tenured guys bid for their timber the same way we bid for our lumber, we wouldn't have a softwood lumber problem with the United States because the U.S. department of commerce wouldn't have a case [under international trade agreements]."

Under tenure agreements, companies must pay the government fees for the logs they take. The softwood lumber dispute is based on the U.S. claim that there is no real market for timber in B.C. because the fees the B.C. government charges for logs are below their market value, giving Canadian firms an unfair advantage over their American competitors.

The U.S. wanted Canada to either charge higher rates or create the conditions for a more competitive market.

The most recent agreement between the two countries involves a complex set of quotas and taxes. But Cameron said that the simple solution to the dispute — reallocating tenure — has been evident since 1982, though the big lumber companies oppose it.

"They get their calculators out and they figure out what [their tenure] is worth to them," he said. "They have always decided that they were willing to pay the price that the Americans extract from us for maintaining the tenure system."

Cameron's idea of redistributing tenure isn't a new one. A government commission sponsored by B.C.'s Social Credit government in the late '80s identified the concentration of tenure as a serious problem.

In 1992, the final report of the commission recommended reallocating at least 50 per cent of the tenures to smaller companies, communities, First Nations and competitive log markets.

In 2002, the BC Liberals began a program of redistributing 20 per cent of tenures. The reallocation has resulted in over 100 new tenure agreements with First Nations. In compensation for the portion of their tenures being taken away, the government paid the major forest companies over $150 million.

"It's ludicrous that we had to pay that much to get what is a public asset back under public control," said NDP forest policy critic Bob Simpson. Simpson has asked the auditor general to do an investigation into the amount of money that has flowed around the 20 per cent redistribution, because he says it's a benchmark that future deals will be measured against.

"The entire tenure system has to be scrapped as it stands today. We need to take the tenures back and we need to redistribute the tenures with preference to First Nations and communities and small tenure holders," said Simpson. "At least 50 per cent of the wood in regional log markets needs to be untied to manufacturers, so that those logs are available for sale to a wide range of entrepreneurs and small business ventures and so on."

But others believe the tenure system is fine the way it is.

"Government needs to be very careful about forms of expropriation that send the [wrong] message to the investment community," said Duncan Kerr, chief operating officer of Western Forest Products. "If you don't have security of tenure, you don't get investment. And if you don't get investment, you don't get the local economic benefits."

Kerr rejects the idea that forestry companies haven't paid for their tenures. Under legislation passed in early 2003, forestry companies can buy and sell tenures similar to private property.

"Right now we're in a position where we certainly would like to refurbish our mills," Kerr said. "But if they don't get refurbished then they become uncompetitive. And if they don't remain competitive, then the only industry that works on the coast is a log export philosophy."

Eric Swanson of the Dogwood Initiative warns the government is putting the interests of private companies ahead of the public good.

"It's frustrating that all those people are out there with the ideas and skills to turn logs into unique and high-value products, and yet the majority of B.C.'s forestry tenures remain with big companies whose economies of scale do little for communities," said Swanson.

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WATER GETAWAY

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

Elk Lake (above) is a fine spot to fuel all your fishing adventures, but don't just stop with the easy-access locales — Vancouver Island offers a host of serene waters to venture around.

Island lakes take the cake

Lynda Pupo

The salty water surrounding Vancouver Island is a playground for brave beach-goers who can withstand the cold. But if suntanning with kelp and windsurfing with a wetsuit sounds unpleasant, warmer beaches await inland.

If you're coming from Ontario, the Island's lakes may seem like puddles, but they only take a few hours to leisurely paddle across. Unlike the glacial-fed lakes of the mountains, these have a temperature that's bearable.

There are several within a reasonable distance of Victoria's core: Elk and Beaver Lakes, Thetis Lake, Prospect Lake, Matheson Lake and the secretive Spectacle Lake are just a few.

All of these lakes open and close with the sun and have the same rules on respecting nature.

Dogs are welcome all year but during the summer they must be on leashes near the picnic areas or beachfronts. Thetis, Elk and Beaver Lakes are accessible by bus; Thetis is the only one of the six lakes that charges for parking.

You need a licence for boating or fishing, but all you need is a sense of adventure — and direction — to enjoy walks, water and wildlife.

The Island is a grand place to spend the summer, so get out there and see what it has to offer.

Elk and Beaver Lakes

Located just a few kilometres north of Victoria on the Pat Bay Highway, Elk and Beaver Lakes are two of the area's most popular lakes. They kiss into each other, making a regional park that covers 443 hectares.

The lakes host a rowing club, and offer resources for swimming, fishing, windsurfing and sailing.

Boats are restricted to certain areas of the lake depending on their power. Towing vessels are not welcome until after 11 a.m.

On shore there are washrooms, an ice-cream stand, marked beach areas, picnic grounds and grass patches for showing off some skin or perfecting those Frisbee skills.

The surrounding parkland offers horseback riding, biking, 19 kilometers of hiking trails and a wheelchair-friendly perimeter walk that totals 10 kilometres.

Thetis Lake

Just as popular with the younger crowd is Thetis Lake, sitting in a park that boasts 831 hectares and includes other lakes.

The lake itself is much smaller than Elk Lake, but is 20 minutes out of Victoria by car. If you have the time and energy to bike or walk, the Galloping Goose trail passes straight by the lake. But save some energy, because Thetis offers more challenging hikes with views of the unique Garry Oak ecosystem. If Thetis is too busy, a short walk to nearby Prior Lake promises no power boats.

Prospect Lake

Popularity isn't for everyone. Located 18 kilometers northwest of Victoria along West Saanich Road and the Prospect Lake turnoff, this practically beach-free lake offers superb fishing.

Stocked with farmed rainbow and cutthroat trout, and surrounded mostly by private property and trees, Prospect Lake promises a peaceful day of water-wading or drifting through thoughts. If the crowd you're with isn't into fishing, there is a public golf course overlooking part of the lake.

Matheson Lake

There are hidden gems a little further out of town. A favourite among Metchosin locals is Matheson Lake Regional Park. It may be a little difficult to find, especially with construction in the area changing the roads, so be sure to bring a current map.

This park is only 157 hectares, but what it lacks in size it makes up for in serenity. This is not a place to be rowdy or to suntan. While kids are welcome, be warned that the waters often fill with nude bodies cooling off after a long ride on the Galloping Goose or a hike back from Roche Cove.

The area is respected deeply by those who visit it often. Electric motor boats are welcome, but rarely seen. The lake is surrounded by rocky edges except for a small beach near the parking lot. It's easy for an adult to swim across the lake but due to the surrounding forest it doesn't look small. Like Elk Lake, there is a perimeter hiking trail, but this one is rough with roots, rocks and hills. Bring Ban-Aids, not beer.

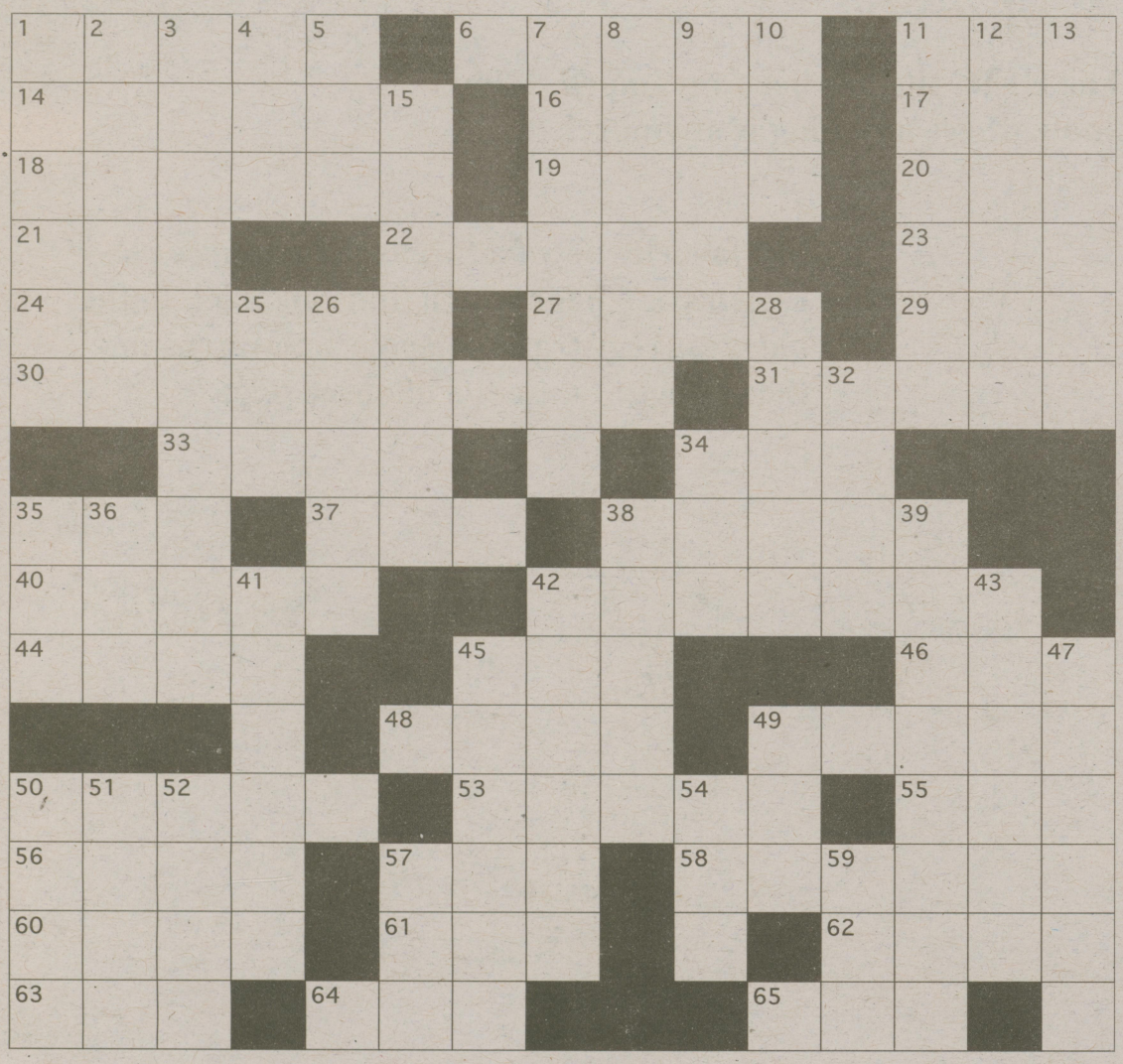
Spectacle Lake

Spectacle Lake is perfect for a day getaway from Victoria, but still manages to feel like a trip into the wilderness — if the wilderness was pruned and primped. This provincial park does not allow motorboats, and early in the morning the water is so clear that bottom-feeders can be seen scurrying away from the shadow of your canoe.

Located just off of the Malahat on the Trans Canada Highway, this trip takes only 45 minutes driving time from Victoria. There is a short walk from the parking lot to the lake, which is stocked with rainbow trout and welcomes fishing, swimming, picnicking and hiking.

There is also a perimeter hike here, but it is short and people-friendly: quaint wooden bridges have been built over the marshy borders. Perhaps the most unique feature of this spot occurs in the winter months. The slight elevation that the Malahat provides allows the lake to freeze for outdoor ice skating, though this is not guaranteed every year.

The Martlet Crossword by David Karp



Across

1 Team
6 Presidential candidate
11 '70s Disney horse baseball movie
14 Uncle's wife
16 Adam and Eve's second son
17 Technology consulting firm
18 Mix
19 Concert venue
20 Slime
21 *The Power of* ___
22 Make ecstatic
23 Between Granville and Cambie Streets
24 Wes Craven horror trilogy
27 Track and field competition
29 Third-generation cellphone technology (abbrev.)
30 Seventh largest Indian city
31 Christian symbol
33 Goo Goo Dolls hit
34 Urinate
35 Outlaw
37 '90s Mohawk land dispute
38 Elusive picture book character
40 Regions
42 Sorcerer
44 Liverpool F.C.'s nickname
45 Auction action
46 Additionally
48 King
49 Mistake
50 Hearts
53 Grocery story hallway
55 Summer drink ingredient
56 Canadian tortured in Syria
57 Lodge
58 Fails
60 Rules (slang)
61 Nike outdoor brand
62 Force divided by acceleration
63 Baseball player Gehrig
64 Spanish one
65 Special military unit

Down

1 Indian appetizer
2 Gatorade's purpose
3 Weakened
4 Home of NBA's Hawks (abbrev.)
5 Cease to exist
7 Country near Florida
8 Lessened
9 Brawl
10 Every one
11 Male prostitute
12 German submarines
13 Cigarettes
15 Facial procedure (two words)
25 Aural organ
26 Goodbye
28 Lymphocyte (two words)
32 Mulligan
34 The norm
35 Drinking establishment
36 Form of "be"
38 Walks through water
39 Whistles
41 Canwest owners
42 Electrical configuration
43 Minor injuries
45 The shrew in *Taming of the Shrew*
47 Formal
49 Japanese delicacy
50 Lenny's companion
51 Sandwich cookie
52 Pasta sauce brand
54 "Summer Girls" and "Girl on TV" boy band
57 Australian swimmer Thorpe
59 Baseball judge

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For the answers to this month's crossword and sudoku puzzles, please visit our website.

solution, tips and computer programs at www.sudoku.com

su|do|ku
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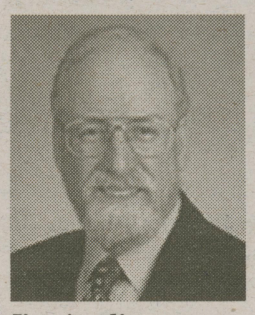
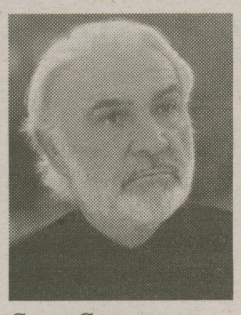
LOOK-ALIKES



Jim Anglin, UVic associate vice-president academic



Sean Connery, actor

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Opinions

EDITORIAL

Current students left out by website redesign

Home should be a sight for sore eyes, not an eyesore. But UVic's newly redesigned home page is causing headaches for those of us set in our ways.

It seems as though we've finally left the '90s and launched into the new millennium — not bad for the first drastic overhaul since the website's creation. But websites are meant to be user friendly, and while the UVic site is certainly trying to befriend potential applicants — a noble goal — it's left the current students stranded.

Granted, we're supposed to be the university educated here, and most of us have been using the Internet for years, but there's something reassuring about coming home. When "home" (be it in the form of a website) gets changed and moved around, we can't help but feel at least a twinge of resentment.

As with any new launch the site is still working out its kinks, so criticism might be premature. But as soon as the UVic home page loads, the four main options are Apply for admission, Ask a question, Check application status, or Take a tour. What about those of us just wanting to check our WebMail, scan our grades on WebReg, or see this year's timetable? We can still do that with the new site, but it's not obvious or easy to get to.

UVic has added a handy "Who are you?" drop-down menu to access information personalized for students in specific groups — Aboriginal students, international students, mature students, newly accepted students and people interested in graduate studies. What category do the 19,000 plain old current students fall into, though? We're pushed casually to the side.

Granted, we haven't been left completely out of the loop — there is a "Current students, faculty & staff" button on the far right of the menu bar. We could feign anger over being placed last in the line of tabs, behind prospective students, parents and counsellors, prospective faculty and staff, alumni and donors, and visitors. But clicking our button only leads to a more confusing page that seems to encourage users to log-in to Campus Security services (a closer look reveals this placement is nothing more than a hair too close to the login site for uSource).

Maybe we don't like change, but mostly we're a little hurt. There's something sad about losing the ease with which we could view our latest news around campus, surf the links (albeit often dead ones) about things we cared about — like the UVic calendar, or merchandise from the bookstore. Yes, we can still do that, but it's kind of like losing your crib to the new baby in the family. We've been booted out, overlooked, left to navigate the cold world on our own, while UVic's website laughs and coos over all the young-uns who demand its time. Fantastic.

The new website does house a "UVic Experiences" section, where web surfers can read the blogs of real UVic students, faculty and staff to see their experiences at the university. That could be construed as a little homage to us oldies, or as just another tactic for us to help reel in the newbies.

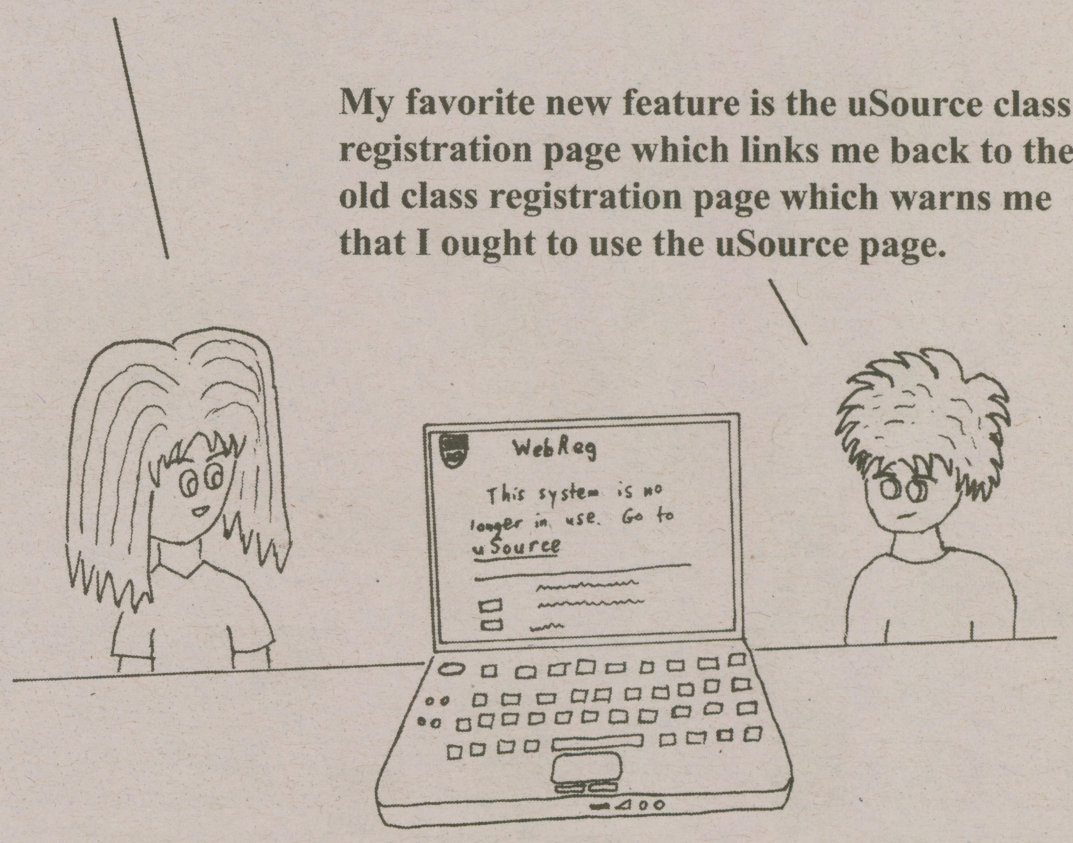
As far as finding basic info, such as when tuition is due, it almost seems necessary to be tech savvy. Sure, we could phone the registrar's office, but isn't the purpose of websites to have pain-free easy access to information?

The biggest complaint may be that everything about the site feels promotional. While there is an element of allure to the new shiny look (still laid out in those classic UVic blue, yellow and white overtones), it lacks the genuine feeling that the old site held tight.

We might just be whiny babies. After logging into uSource, the links can take you everywhere from news and on campus entertainment to finding out the current weather at UVic. These capabilities may outweigh those which the old site presented us with. And launching the new site was thoughtfully left until the beginning of summer, after the craze of finals ended. It just doesn't make swallowing a new dose of change any easier.

Editorial topics and stances are decided on by staff at our regular editorial meetings in the Martlet office (SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

WANDERING THE WEB


The UVIC site has been revamped. I don't know where anything is anymore!
My favorite new feature is the uSource class registration page which links me back to the old class registration page which warns me that I ought to use the uSource page.
WebReg
This system is no longer in use. Go to uSource

GORD DUFF GRAPHIC

WAR OF WORDS

Playing politics with Olympics

Spencer Anderson & Gavin Day

With the Summer Olympics fast approaching, some countries are considering a boycott of the Beijing games in August in protest of China's human rights record.

Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper indicated Canada won't boycott the games, but Harper said he won't attend the opening ceremonies. This month, former Martlet opinions editor Spencer Anderson and Martlet sportswriter Gavin Day debate whether or not Canada should boycott the Olympics.

Anderson: The decision about whether to send a Canadian delegation to the Olympics in Beijing is very real in the sense that it strikes at the heart of what Canada represents as a democracy. The Chinese government has chosen to kill, imprison, torture and make political refugees out of those who have exercised their human rights. This is an assault and offense to every human being. Canada cannot endorse this behavior by patronizing the Chinese government with our athletes and money.

Day: China's occupation of Tibet is nothing new. It has been going on for years, and little has been done to hold the Chinese government at account for their actions. That being said, a boycott would do nothing to change the policies of the Chinese government. All we need to do is look at the lack of effectiveness of previous Olympic boycotts (1976, '80 and '84, for example). The show will still go on — with or without our athletes — and in the end they are the only people that will suffer.

Anderson: The point is that Canada should categorically rule out participating in games hosted by dictatorial governments that terrorize people. To host the Olympics is an honour not worthy of the Orwellian administration in Beijing. Furthermore, if others followed Canada's lead, you would see real change real fast. As for the athletes, they have my condolences, but partying in Beijing isn't conducive to getting tough on China. Quite frankly, it's like playing tennis with Hitler.

Day: Canada should show real leadership by boycotting trade missions and by imposing trade sanctions against China. If they stand behind their words that human rights are paramount, they would place this above their desire for more money. Canadian athletes believed they were going to change the world when they boycotted the 1980 Moscow games. When they saw that they were essentially pawns, they felt their lives' work was ruined by politicians who were not willing to make meaningful sacrifices.

Anderson: I too believe that there are a range of options the Canadian government could pursue, including trade sanctions. I am disappointed, however, that you would go as far as imposing trade sanctions, which would affect thousands of working Canadians, but not so far as to boycott games which may or may not affect the careers of a few athletes. I'd argue that your priorities are misplaced. Canada should not endorse a Chinese Olympic host until human rights are respected.

Day: What I am understanding is that we should condemn a government that violently puts down dissent and exterminates the culture of an ethnic group within her borders — as long as that doesn't cost our economy money? Human life is equal, be it in Canada or in Tibet. Boycotting the Olympics would be a meaningless gesture that would change nothing. Politicians could take decisive action, or they could just take the easy way out which, in the end, hurts our athletes. Our athletes represent Canada, and we should not punish them.

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Sweating for some summer lovin'

Rupinder Mangat

Poet Alexander Pope was right — you can escape the sun, but there is no escaping love when summer turns the whole world brighter.

It's a season that tempts us with the sight of fresh leaves and blushing blossoms, with the sound of singing birds and gushing streams, with the fragrance of warm earth and wildflowers, and with the touch of summer breezes and sunshine.

Then, of course, there are the ever-shrinking summer garments that expose more sinuous sun-kissed skin with each passing day, pushing the thermostat up that final notch to set the blood to boiling. Add the pheromone-filled sweat dripping down those interesting parts of aforementioned luscious skin, and it sends the hormones into hysteria.

How can mere mortals survive temptation under such sensory overload? How are we to resist when our own chemistry conspires against us? Oscar Wilde had it right when he said, "I can resist everything except temptation."

But some of us shy types who are easily heartbroken fear the lusty frenzy of summer months. After all, a summer fling is usually just a fling. The end of summer usually means back to school, work and mundane life, while the romance of a hot season is gone. Gone are our dreamy lovers, back to their own university at the other Canadian coast, or simply back to being worried students trying to live between

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

essay deadlines and work shifts.

And when distance or demanding student life intrudes, forget it. Soon you're posting little "Hi ... um ... how are you?" notes on the Facebook wall of your erstwhile lover, praying that you don't get a "Hi ... um ... who are you?" reply.

Thus the wise of mind and weak of heart ask: is a summer fling worth it? And I say, "Aye, aye."

Follow your heart and hormones (but play safe), and you shall not regret the summer fling. If you don't, you might regret chances that were not taken, and dreamboats that were never proposed.

Besides, you need some stories to impress your rebellious teenagers with when they question whether a 40-something can ever truly understand the trials and tribulations, joys and heartbreaks of the teenage life that is "so, like, unreal — like you won't even believe the new guy in my class who's like, so cute." So if you're afraid to do it for yourself, have a fling for your children — or just to defend your self-esteem when you do have children.

Hike the hems and drop the waists. Put your heart on a sleeve, or strap, or something, and start gambling in that game of love. You might not win the jackpot, but you'll sure have fun trying.

And there's always hope. Maybe your summer love will survive the ravages of old man winter, geographical separation and other tribulations. Maybe like Sandy Olsson and Danny Zuko your summer dream ripped at the seams of fall will get sewn back together come next summer. And in case you don't know Sandy and Danny, go watch Grease. It's all the incentive you'll need to give summer love a try.

LETTERS

Stop painting over graffiti

I have never scribbled graffiti on the walls of the McPherson Library bathroom stalls (Racist graffiti penned, March 20), but I have spent a few minutes in between many tedious study sessions gawking at what other people have drawn. I feel that the stalls should not be repainted as often as they currently are. I am not at all a psychology expert, but I think that the folks that write derogatory comments feel even more inclined to do so when an "authority" is trying to keep the walls clean by painting over them every few weeks. Throughout my travels, I have seen places where patrons are actually encouraged to draw on the walls of their stalls, and there are rarely obscene comments. Maybe if the walls weren't so frequently repainted, people would be more inclined to write thoughtful statements or quotes, or maybe even draw art. If you think about it, it doesn't take somebody much time, effort, or brains to write a racial slur or draw a swastika.

- Nate Lambert, UVic student

What next?

The Opinions page of the Martlet has gone from bad to worse. It started with Derek Madson's context-lacking diatribe against Muslims and the Qur'an (Violence at root of Qur'an, March 6). Were he responding to a specific issue, such as the pitting of religious practice against liberal democracy, the publication of his opinion would be justified. Instead, we were presented with polemic for the sake of provocation.

After, the Marlet printed an article that can only be described as Islamic devotional literature (Wisdom and peace at root of Qur'an, April 3). Everyone has the right to their preferred superstition without unwarranted criticism or discrimination. However, as soon as that becomes public proselytizing, dissenting and perhaps offensive counter-opinions are justified. There is not enough space to address our grievances with the article, so instead, let us ask another question.

Is the Marlet going to accommodate every faith-based minority who wishes to publish an article? Two Muslim students have shared how the Qur'an can move followers to tears. Can we expect to hear from Pentecostal students about how the Holy Spirit moves them to speak in tongues? Will we hear from the Jehovah's Witnesses about the imminent apocalypse?

- Jim Young and Stefan Bourrier, community members

A problem of context

I have read all the salvos in the castigation of Derek Madson's article on the Qur'an (Violence at root of Qur'an, March 6) with both bemusement and incredulity. The main complaint seems to be his selection of quotes to show that the Qur'an incites violence in some of the followers of this religion. The critics decry the removal of the quotes from the overall context of the book.

This criticism is misplaced. It is not just Madson who is taking these quotes to justify his position. The Muslims who have committed atrocities such as the beheading of journalist Nick Berg in Iraq are also using the same excerpts.

If no Muslim used the quotes to justify violence, then the outrage of Madson's critics would be understandable. However, the quotes Madson printed are used by certain Muslims to rationalize violence that suits their political or religious agendas. I think the apologists and Muslim critics should direct their ire at the people who are selectively using quotes from this book to justify horrific acts and harbour awful beliefs, and not at Madson, who is merely pointing out the truth.

- Jeff Wishart, UVic student

Don't stifle debate

The Martlet article by Derek Madson (Violence at root of Qur'an, March 6) has prompted a rant in The Ring from Ernest Morrow, an Anglican chaplain. Why would a representative of a religion that claims it was persecuted for its point of view, including strong criticism of religions of the day, urge the silencing of a point of view?

Morrow's rant seems based on particular interpretations of collectivism, notably defining alleged victims in certain ways and believing words cause force, a notion that ignores the justice system. What is the difference between criticizing violence in the bible of a supposed minority and criticizing violence in the bible of Morrow's supposed WASP majority? Would he object to criticism of the ideas of the minority of Christians who bomb abortion clinics? Would he defend atheists against the criticism they get from Christians? What about brave females such as Ayaan Hirsi Ali who criticize Islam from their personal experience of oppression?

Morrow's approach is wrong, incompatible with principles of freedom that created peace and prosperity for Canadians. In contrast, the Martlet published seemingly sincere attempts to rebut the article. Whether those rebuttals are correct or not, that is the proper approach.

- Keith Sketchley, community member

Poor design, annoying waits

I was happy to see the opening of the BiblioCafé in the UVic library. I am kind of surprised, however, that they would design and build such a venue without anticipating the rather obvious high demand. Queues often extend a long way towards the entrance, and move at a snail's pace. Surely a two-tilled setup would have been more appropriate. As it is, it is often faster to walk over to the SUB for a drink or snack rather than wait in line at the BiblioCafé.

- Clancy McDonnell, UVic student

Grad party rocked

I would like to express my appreciation to the organizers of the Grad Party at the Strathcona Hotel and related facilities on April 3. From free appetizers, to great decorations, to late-night bus transportation back to UVic, it was apparent the grad committee had put a great deal of thought and effort into the planning of an awesome event to cap off our time at UVic. I hope this event continues for future UVic students to enjoy. Thank you!

- Jessica Page, UVic student

Homelessness was solved before

To solve a problem, first see if it has happened before and been solved. During the dirty '30s, we had homelessness all over the First World. The homeless were called hoboes, bums and vagrants. The government, as usual, wrongheadedly decided the solution was to make vagrancy a crime.

The Second World War ended the problem — most men went to war and manufacturing goods for the war created jobs for the remaining men. At the war's end, First World countries adopted the philosophy of the Scandinavian countries: the government has the obligation to look after the welfare of all. Presto — no more homeless, even in peacetime. We had 30 years of no homeless; even the mentally ill were looked after in group homes.

Then Ronald Reagan introduced the trickle-down theory: give the money to the rich and it will trickle down to the poor. It didn't. Thatcher adopted the trickle-down theory. The Lords stopped losing land to the common people via the Succession Duty Act. The Act then was cancelled in Britain. Canada and the other First World countries, except Scandinavia, got rid of succession duty and adopted the Reagan trickle-down formula and, voila, homelessness came back to what it is today. The solution is obvious.

- Ron Macisaac, community member

Happy? Sad? Enraged?
Tell us: letters@martlet.ca
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Politics of the pill

The troubling past and alarming side effects of the contraceptive that changed the world

"Alesse made me stop wanting sex."

This is scrawled in black Sharpie on an ad for the popular brand of birth control, in a stall of a women's washroom. Simple and shocking, it hints at the contradictions that surround women's attempts to control their fertility. Why does a drug that allows women to have sex without the fear of pregnancy potentially inhibit their desire to do so?

Laura McMahon, a philosophy and English major at McGill University, has her own horror story about Alesse. She credits the pill with what she calls a "completely all-consuming bout of depression" which lasted for an entire year of high school.

"It never occurred to anyone — not my mom, my boyfriend, my friends, or even my therapist — that there was a link between my taking the pill and my depression," she says.

The malaise temporarily ended McMahon's relationship, caused problems with her friends and left her feeling inadequate. Only through a combination of travel, new circumstances and, most significantly, using a different form of contraception, did McMahon manage to fight the depression and get back on her feet.

Today, McMahon is adamant that hormonal birth control will never again be an option for her. Yet McMahon's story, as well as that of the anonymous bathroom scribe, are two among many. Birth control is intrinsically linked with the "free love" movement of the '60s, second-wave feminism and women's liberation. While some women rely on chemical or hormonal forms of birth control such as the pill or the patch, others rely primarily on barrier methods, namely condoms or diaphragms.

Many women only experience positive results from hormonal forms of fertility control. However, a growing minority of women and men are emphasizing the need for a more vigorous debate surrounding the pill's safety, distribution and efficacy. Underlying this is a fear that criticism of the pill labels one as anti-feminist or paternalistic. But this concern only contributes to the lack of critical analysis and discussion.

"The pill has a really deplorable history in terms of eugenics," says Jocelyn Porter, who works as a health facilitator at Head and Hands, a not-for-profit organization that promotes physical and mental well-being for youth.

Porter emphasizes that birth control has been tested primarily on marginalized populations who had very little control over the process. Most trials for contraceptive drugs were done in poor nations in the Global South.

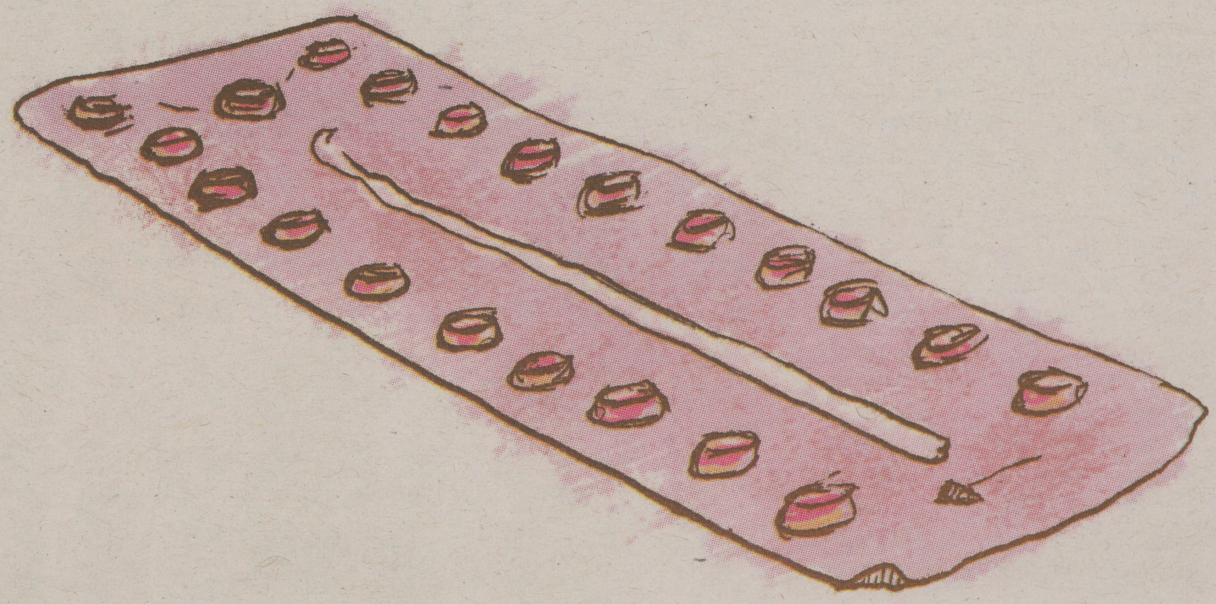
A birth control pill, for example, was tested on thousands of poor women in Puerto Rico in 1956 before it was approved for use in the United States in 1960. Norplant, a long-lasting birth control implant (which was discontinued in the United States and Canada in 2002) was tested on women in Chile in 1972.

Depo-Provera, which uses tri-monthly injections of progesterone, was tested for decades on Mexican and Thai women to establish whether it was acceptable for use by North Americans. Native American women, especially those with mental disabilities, were also used as test subjects for Depo-Provera.

"Not only were impoverished women in developing nations used as guinea pigs, but if we look at where it's been given out for free or for really cheap, it's also tinged with racism," says Porter, adding that sometimes injections of Norplant were tied to welfare benefits in poor, primarily black, areas of the United States. Margaret Sanger, founder of the American Birth Control League (which later became Planned Parenthood), is often considered the original spokesperson for birth control. While Sanger's goal of introducing a simple, widely accessible and cost-effective pill was admirable, she was also a eugenics proponent. This movement aimed to decrease the fertility rate among genetically "disadvantaged" populations.

"Birth control was marketed as a way of controlling the 'population of the unfit,' like poor ethnic populations," Porter says.

Sanger fed off white, upper-middle-class fears about a "race suicide" of the "fit," and uncontrollable population growth of the



Naomi Lightman from The McGill Daily — Montreal (CUP)
Illustrations by Marc Junker

"unfit." Those who promoted the pill and other hormonal methods of contraception often wanted them used to curtail specific populations — a side of birth control that often gets overlooked.

Many women recall their experience going to the doctor to discuss birth control for the first time feeling rushed and uncomfortable, as if taking the pill was the only viable option.

"You go in there, you're young, and you're usually scared because something is wrong," says Anna Feigenbaum, a McGill graduate student and an instructor in communication studies. "[Doctors] think you're stupid and incapable of using any form of birth control that is non-chemical, and you don't think to question it unless you start feeling sick."

Feigenbaum recalls lasting on the pill for only six months until she became ill. "The whole time I was on it, I was a total nutcase," she says.

Ideally, women should learn in high school about birth control options to make informed decisions for themselves. However, according to recent McGill arts graduate Theresa Howard, sex education in North American schools often falls short. Howard's undergraduate thesis was titled "Learning About Birth Control: The Challenges and Opportunities." She interviewed 12 McGill students about their experiences learning about birth control.

"A lot of women felt like their doctor and teachers didn't have enough time, or weren't willing to give them enough time, to sit down and really go through the different options," Howard says. She found that women often value information from their peers over medical professionals or educators.

Formal sexual health education in Canadian schools began in the early 20th century due to anxieties about venereal disease. In the '60s, curricula adjusted to address the rising rates of unplanned pregnancies, while in the '80s they began to concentrate on the growing AIDS crisis.

While many Canadian schools currently offer comprehensive sexual health education, including instruction on different birth control methods, studies consistently report that these programs are deficient. One study found that only 15.5 per cent of bachelor of education programs at Canadian universities had mandatory sex-ed training, and 26.2 per cent had optional sex-ed courses.

There is an information gap concerning non-hormonal birth control options among university students, Feigenbaum says. This is coupled with what she calls a "complaining discourse" surrounding condoms.

"There are limited alternative information sources, particularly ones that have funding and infrastructure," she laments. "It's time to expand our definitions of sex."

Despite these misgivings, the pill remains the most widely used method of birth control for women under 30. The fact that we refer to this hormonal contraceptive as "the pill," when there are countless other tablets and capsules, is indicative of its dominance of public discourse about contraception.

The known list of hormonal birth control's potential side effects range from minor to fatal, including depression, weight fluctuations, decreased libido and a risk of blood clots for smokers. However, as a relatively new drug, long-term side effects of the pill are difficult to determine. They will only reveal themselves as the first generation of users develop symptoms. Few long-term controlled research trials have actually been carried out on the pill.

Hormonal oral contraceptives also put the entire onus of birth control on women. While this is reassuring for many, it eliminates male accountability. As a consequence, it becomes women's sole responsibility to obtain, pay for and take the pill — as well as to suffer its physical or emotional side effects.

Sam Mackenzie, a researcher at Douglas Hospital, a Montreal mental health institute, says he has "serious reservations" about hormonal forms of birth control. Mackenzie's concerns began during a course on endocrinology, the study of hormones in the brain. He learned that levels of estrogen naturally fluctuate in a woman's body, but that hormonal birth control eliminates these fluctuations.

"It can lead to really elevated levels of estrogen across the entire cycle," he says, explaining that estrogen plays a role in the serotonin level and in memory. "So if there's a natural cycle, it gives me pause to tinker with that.... I'm not convinced that the pill has no effect on the long-term health of those systems."

Howard says she hesitates to use the word "natural" in discussions on birth control. "That word gets thrown around a lot. People will say that something is 'natural' and therefore it's the way it's supposed to be."

Howard also has concerns about chemically controlling women's menstrual cycles. "I do think [hormonal birth control] is not the right choice for everyone," she says.

> Few long-term controlled research trials have actually been carried out on the pill

For those hoping for better choices in the future, research and development on alternatives has been lacking, often due to cost and potential liabilities. Many pharmaceutical companies have completely withdrawn from research in pregnancy prevention, focusing instead on marketing.

"It seems like they're always coming up with something new, but it's always a variation on the same thing," says Porter. She also notes that non-contraceptive benefits of hormonal birth control, such as acne treatment, or relief of menstrual cramps are also often used to lure younger users.

Birth control pamphlets and guides for selecting the right contraception are often sponsored by pill manufacturers, who have a vested interest in women choosing what the company sells. These guides often frame the pill as "the" contraceptive.

"These supposed information pamphlets are actually advertisements," says Howard. "And birth control pills are also sometimes given free to doctors by pharmaceutical companies as a promotion. This can influence what doctors prescribe, either because the product has been really sold to them by the company, or because that's just what they happen to have on hand."

Feigenbaum notes that sometimes doctors who are quoted in these information sources are also on the boards of the pharmaceutical companies that make the product, or are in some way connected to their payroll.

"Of course, it won't say that when you open up your web page," she says. "It'll just say, 'Great new drug for you,' with doctor recommendations. Then, it turns out — through usually not too many clicks — that the doctor works for the lab."

Critics argue pharmaceutical companies are consciously drawing attention away from non-medical methods of contraception.

"It takes attention away from barrier methods which have the highest efficacy-to-safety ratio, and I think are really fantastic," says Porter.

McMahon says we can no longer pass the pill off as "something totally normal and benign." She says she has learned over time which condoms work best for her and afford the maximum pleasure and safety. "I'd way rather take real, visible, and exterior precautions on principle."

Avital Oretsky, an arts student, has been on the pill for almost two years and has not experienced any negative side effects, besides some initial nausea. Oretsky says she is happy with the pill, and plans to stay on it for the foreseeable future, though she too admits to a certain degree of uncertainty.

"I'm still kind of unsure how I feel about it," she says, "even though all doctors reassure you that it's totally safe and fine for your body."

Summer street performer spots up for grabs

Jennifer Gait

PHOTO COURTESY OF GREATER VICTORIA HARBOUR AUTHORITY

An artist on Victoria's Inner Harbour shows his work to potential customers. The harbour authority is looking for artists for this summer.

Every summer Victoria's Inner Harbour hops with tourists, making it the perfect place for artists to showcase their work and earn some cash. Performers and sightseers draw one another, a symbiotic relationship that the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority fosters through the careful choice of artists.

"I'd love to get UVic music students down here, but they never come," said Joseph Gonyeau, the judge of most artists applying for a licence to perform or sell their wares as part of the Victoria Harbour Festival. The festival is the name given to the artists who grace the Inner Harbour all summer long. Busking licences for performers along Government Street are handled by the City of Victoria.

Gonyeau is still seeking visual artists and one street performer. Unlike the other artists, street performers are auditioned by their peers. Everyone is welcome to apply. Musicians, mime artists and human statues are assigned one two-hour spot a day. Street performers (comedians and jugglers) get a 45-minute spot daily. All performers pay $180 for their season-long licence, even though Gonyeau thinks it's more difficult for street performers than musicians to make money.

"It's hard for people to drum up a big enough audience and do their act in 45 minutes," he said.

All visual artists who make and sell their wares pay $1,100 for their licence. They are assigned a spot for 15 hours a day — from 8 a.m. until 11 p.m. They must be from the region, sell hand-made artwork and preferably create some art while on-site.

Talent is not the only attribute that Gonyeau looks for when choosing artists. As a group, the candidates must be culturally diverse and represent Victoria's unique spirit.

"I've just auditioned a quasi-reggae band with a Spanish influence," he said. "Now I'm waiting to audition a piano player."

Venues for the Victoria Harbour Festival are the Inner Harbour lower causeway, Fisherman's Wharf, the Wharf Street pier and Ship Point for the night market. The latter is held on Friday and Saturday nights and has a different licensing process.

It was his days selling handmade soap in Bastion Square that showed Gonyeau the power of these summer events for artists.

"It helps people launch a business, or showcase their talents," he said. Gonyeau now has his own soap shop, but admits that not all artists will be as successful.

"Everyone is different; some people are good at their craft, but not at selling," he said. "Those that can combine craft and salesmanship make pretty good money."

Pretty good can mean around $30,000, Gonyeau said, adding that some artists only work for the summer then go south for the rest of the year.

Jurying will continue until May 15, and those interested in auditioning should contact Gonyeau as soon as possible at 413-6828. Artists can also apply for the night market, which starts June 20, and for the special market held the long weekend of the Symphony Splash concert (Aug. 3-5).

Icelandic star to open for Queens of the Stone Age

Emily Agopsowicz

Icelandic singer-songwriter hero Mugison is about to shake up Canada in his upcoming tour with Queens of the Stone Age.

Performing in Victoria at the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre on May 1, he will showcase his third album *Mugiboogie*. Its raw rock n' roll sound will have Canadians doing the *Mugiboogie* in no time.

Mugiboogie, released last year in Iceland, came out screaming with its honest sound, and is already platinum in Iceland, having sold more than 10,000 copies. At the 2007 Icelandic Music Awards, the album earned Mugison best rock album, best album cover and best video for "The Great Unrest."

Mugison was born Örn Elías Guðmundsson, and gained his show name after touring Malaysian fishing villages, drinking and singing karaoke with his father. The Malaysians knew his father as Mugi and were amazed by his deep voice.

"Everywhere we went they would get him to sing karaoke for drinks," Mugison said. "During breaks over a drink he would introduce me as his son... They called me Mugi-son."

Mugison's goal with *Mugiboogie* was to make a rock 'n roll album "like you've never heard before, spanning every note on the emotional scale while at the same time being the most honest rock 'n roll album you'll ever hear," notes his website.

In order to develop his sound, Mugison embarked on a research project.

"I listened to lots of 'best-of' albums — over 200," he said. "What I liked about these was that there was a very schizophrenic quality to them. They spanned over 20 to 25 years."

He tried to recreate that quality with *Mugiboogie*.

"I want you to be able to buy this album in a flea market in a few years and not know what time it had come from," said Mugison.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HÖRDUR

Mugison brings a unique Icelandic sound to the Save-On-Foods Centre.

The result is a sound that is hard to pinpoint but is soulful and emotional with elements of sex.

The single from *Mugiboogie*, "Jesus is a Good Name to Moan," comes with a video and a myth behind it. The video, which can be viewed on YouTube, is "slighty pornographic," said Mugison. And the story?

"It is a theory of why women moan 'Jesus' when they are climaxing," he explained. "My theory is that Jesus' mother didn't get an orgasm — Jesus was just planted inside, so she didn't get to come. So since then, all of womankind are cursed: all women are bound to scream 'Jesus' or 'God' when they are coming."

Mugiboogie's rock n' roll feel is vastly different from his previous albums — *Lonely Mountain* (2003) and *Mugimama, Is This Monkeymusic?* (2005) — which have an electro-folk quality.

He attributes the change in part to his short attention span.

"If songs sound similar to another I get very bored and frustrated," he said. "It is a natural thing for me to keep trying new things.

"I used to do the electro-folk thing — a one-man band with a laptop. I started in 2002 just looping and recording and being drunk on stage. Then a lot of people were doing the same thing. But they could do it better than me, so I thought I'd better find something that makes me sound good."

In 2005, he exchanged his laptop for four flesh and blood band members, who are all long-time friends of his.

Audiences can expect a high-energy show.

"The guys have a supernatural power on their instruments. We get sweaty and horny and very excited," said Mugison.

Mugison's next project has the tentative title of *Music for Cafés and Commercials*, which he describes as background music "that would make your neck move like a goose's or chicken's." He quickly added, "But it depends on my mood. Maybe I will do another rock album with the guys. It is fun."

For the moment, Mugison is excited to be touring with Queens of the Stone Age in Canada.

"It was like Christmas when they called and asked me to do the tour. I will definitely be taking lots of pictures and have lots of stories to tell when I am in some old-folks' home."

According to Ipecac Records, *Mugiboogie* will hit shelves in North America in mid-to-late June. Oh Jesus.

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ON CAMPUS

ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

The UVic visual arts undergrad show on April 18 featured a wide range of student projects, including artwork and sculptures.

Hot Sh*t a huge turnout for grads

Andrew Smith

April 18 saw one of the greatest turnouts for the annual UVic visual arts undergrad show, Hot Sh*t, which lined the walls of the department with the work of more than 36 different artists.

UVic professor Ingrid Percy ran the show along with the Visual Arts Student Association, led by president Deb Wertman and vice-president Meghann Doyle. The building was transformed into a stunning gallery space for the students to display their work. Hundreds crammed in to view the art.

"Ingrid really cracked the whip to make sure this was a great show," said graduate, Garrett Nichols.

Each student submitted a number of works and was responsible for hanging his or her own pieces. In just two weeks, the entire building was gutted, repainted and cleaned for the show. Each room featured something different, including everything from giant sasquatches to black and white photographs of greasy faces.

A panel, headed by P.E.I. artist John Tucker, judged the show. They chose Jenn Boyd as the winner of the annual Helen Pitt $1,000 award.

The criteria consisted of the diversity of materials, the artist's technical abilities and the construction of the pieces. The judges also considered how the artist addressed problems in a coherent manner.

Boyd said her accolade was "a great acknowledgment for a year's worth of hard work." Her works in the show included several sculptures dipped in wax, and large drawings covering the wall space around them.

Evan Locke was selected as this year's Royal Canadian Academy Award winner with a $5,000 prize awarded for his work in a traditional discipline. His artistic works consisted mainly of paintings with black borders. His piece "Irritants 1 & 2," featured in the dark space, enthralled viewers with its turquoise glow.

Many of the works captured viewers for an extended period of time. Sean McMahon's sculptures consisting of welded steel scraps — particularly "21st Century Man" and "20th Century Man" — engaged viewers for several minutes as they stared from afar, then up close.

David Clancy's painting series, "It's A Curse," used wood scraps for the canvas. The use of materials truly spoke to the subject matter of the pieces. Some viewers remarked that his pieces, one of which depicted bleeding donkeys in a rural setting, were morbid.

The works showed some of the highest sophistication and skill that the department has seen in recent years. Don't be surprised to see these grads making waves on the Canadian art scene in years to come.

Political folk singer shows softness with motherhood

Sam VanSchie

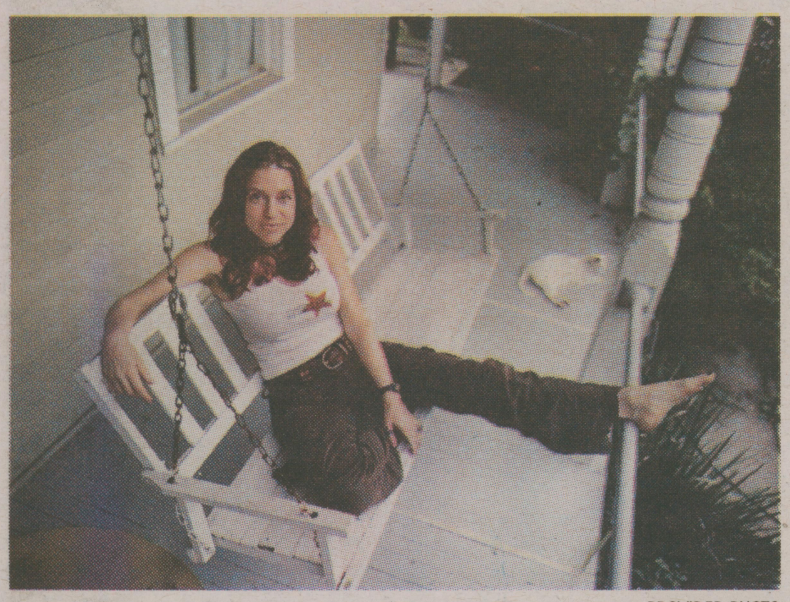
Ani DiFranco drew from her musical archive, playing many older songs at the University Centre auditorium on April 22.

The stop in Victoria was part of the western arm of her tour, which started last fall to promote her first compilation album, *Cannon*.

At 37 years old, with 19 albums released, this fiercely political folk singer founded Righteous Babe Records and recently turned an old church into a music hall called Babeville in her hometown of Buffalo, N.Y. This was DiFranco's first time in Victoria since 2004, when she played a solo show in the David Lam Auditorium at UVic.

This time, she was joined on stage by Todd Sickafoose on upright bass, and Allison Miller on drums, making for an upbeat show. The trio opened with "Anticipate" from her 1991 release, *Not So Soft*.

But it wasn't all old stuff. DiFranco recently became a mother (apparently as a convenient excuse to take a break from her music career, though it seems she hasn't let up at all), and she had some tender songs that spoke to her experience.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Ani DiFranco may be a toned-down mother, but she still has her edge.

In "Present/Infant" DiFranco sang, "Here's this tiny baby and they say she looks just like me / and she is smiling at me with that present infant glee / and I would defend to the end of the Earth her perfect right to be."

Those might be some pretty soft lyrics for a feminist icon, but she's never been good at fitting the mold.

Perhaps that's why she tows along the opening trio, Animal Prufrock, to fill in (sometimes annoyingly) the über-experimental, radically-queer feminist tunes, singing about "emotional boners" and menstrual blood.

This is not to say DiFranco has traded her political edge for motherhood.

> "Here's this tiny baby and they say she looks just like me... and I would defend to the end of the Earth her perfect right to be."
>
> – *Ani DiFranco, in her song "Present/Infant"*

One unreleased song that wasn't about her child was "Red Letter Year" about Hurricane Katrina, which ripped through her New Orleans home in 2005 when she was recording *Reprieve*.

She then bounced back a decade to sing "Fuel," a cynical song she recorded in 1998 about slave cemeteries in Manhattan. Played together, it was easy to hear how similar the stories in the two songs were.

In this corrupt political landscape, perhaps it's nice (or at least healthy) that she can step back a moment and enjoy the magic of motherhood, writing lyrics for her daughter like those in "Landing Gear," a song set in labour, when she sang, "You're gonna love this world if it's the last thing I do."

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Hearing loss permanent but preventable

Jennifer Gait

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

Listening to your iPod with the volume dial above halfway can cause hearing damage, according to an expert from Island Hearing.

Have you ever played your iPod at full volume or gone to a rock concert without hearing protection? If you answered yes, you're at risk of developing noise-induced hearing loss.

May is Speech and Hearing Awareness Month, a fine time to evaluate how well you protect your hearing against this condition, which can make it difficult or impossible to understand speech.

"The danger of exposure to noise is a function of the volume and the time exposure," said Monica Pozer, director of audiology at Island Hearing. "The louder the sound, the shorter the duration of [safe] listening."

At an 85-decibel level, which is roughly the amount of sound a blender generates, an eight-hour exposure is the most someone should have, according to Island Hearing.

But Health Canada suggests that 45 minutes of unprotected exposure at 85 decibels is more appropriate, while the Canadian Hearing Society states that this should not be considered a safe level for unprotected hearing.

With every three-decibel increase, the sound energy doubles, so the time of unprotected exposure must be halved. In industrial settings, for example, only four hours should be spent at 88 decibels and two hours at 91 decibels.

Experts seem to agree that unprotected exposure to sounds above 140 decibels is dangerous. Rock concerts typically deliver 120 to 150 decibels.

"Afterwards, people [without hearing protection] can experience a temporary threshold shift," said Pozer. " Hearing seems to decline; there may be a muffled feeling or ringing in the ears, then by the next day it seems to resolve."

With repetition, though, the damage becomes permanent by harming the hair cells in the inner ear, which are responsible for passing messages via the auditory nerve to the brain where they are interpreted as sound. Pozer likens hair cells to grass: walk across a healthy lawn, and within a short time the grass springs back. Keep walking until you wear a path, and the grass dies. A temporary threshold shift, or ear pain following exposure to noise, is a warning that your hearing is at risk. But not everyone gets a warning.

iPods used at too high a volume for too long are one of the most severe potential causes of hearing loss in children and young adults. Twelve per cent of six to 19-year-olds in the United States have noise-induced hearing loss.

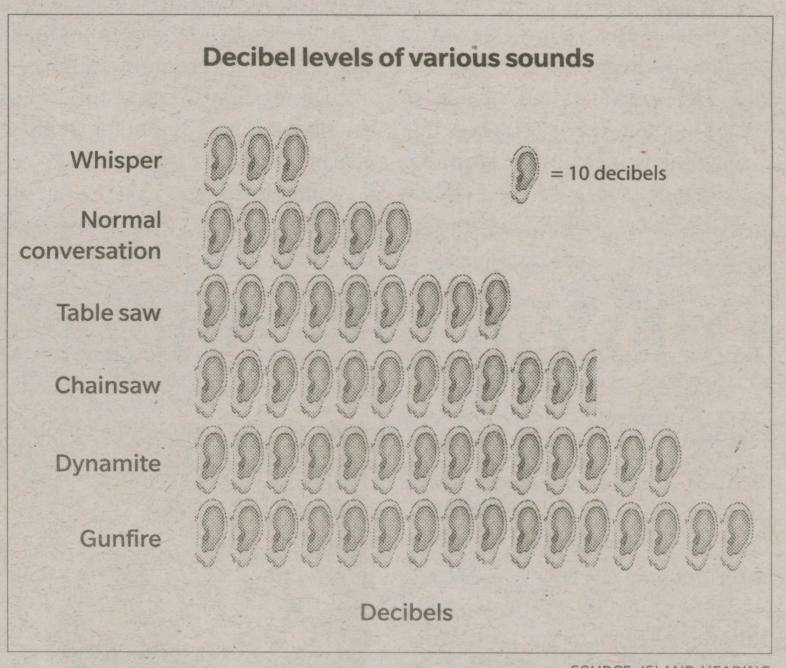
"Individuals can use iPods at 50 per cent volume or less for eight hours a day, but the moment they turn them above this, they are at risk," said Pozer. For every 10 per cent rise in volume level on the dial they should halve the time. Another hazard is to try to drown out background noise, or to use earphones other than those that came with the iPod.

"The music is too loud if others can hear it, or if the person listening cannot hear you when you speak to them from two meters," said Pozer. There are a variety of jobs where workers should protect their hearing, ranging from industrial sites to nightclubs, orchestras and dentists' offices.

"Employers should provide hearing protection in these situations. If they don't, there are a number of routes workers can follow," said Tek Manhas, manager of Island Hearing's industrial division. These routes include talking to their workplace industrial first aid attendant or safety officer about their concerns. If the issue remains unresolved they can request a noise assessment from the Workers' Compensation Board, or buy their own hearing protection. Safety supply stores have a full range of protection from earmuffs to earplugs.

"Foam-rubber ear plugs can be bought from drug stores, and will provide good protection even on industrial sites," said Manhas. People with normal hearing should be able to hold conversations with others while wearing them. Custom-molded ear protection is another option. Differing according to the situations it will be used in, it costs about $160 and lasts about 10 years. It's often more comfortable than off-the-shelf protection.

Noise-induced hearing loss is irreversible and initially imperceptible. Consonants become hard to discriminate, and speech sounds muffled and difficult or impossible to understand, especially in noisy places. Hearing aids help by amplifying sounds, but do not make hearing normal — listening becomes work and is no longer effortless.



SOURCE: ISLAND HEARING

TOP TEN

FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 28th, 2008

CFUV 101.9 FM cfuv.uvic.ca

1. MARC ATKINSON TRIO
   IV (Self-Released)*
2. CONSTANTINES
   Kensington Heights (Arts And Crafts)*
3. CRYSTAL CASTLES
   Crystal Castles (Last Gang)*
4. MAN MAN
   Rabbit Habits (Anti)
5. CUT COPY
   In Ghost Colours (Modular)
6. HIEROPHANT
   Hierophant (Self-Released)*
7. THEE SILVER MT. ZION MEMORIAL ORCHESTRA AND TRA-LA-LA BAND
   13 Blues For Thirteen Moons (Constellation)*
8. THE GRUFF
   A Trail Of Missing Thoughts (Self-Released)+
9. DESTROYER
   Trouble In Dreams (Merge)*
10. VARIOUS
    Our Side Of Town: A Red House 25th Year Collection (Red House)*

* Canadian artist † local artist

CFUV is the University of Victoria's Campus/Community Radio Station. To find out more information about CFUV, including our programming schedule, volunteer information and complete charts, please visit our website at www.cfuv.uvic.ca.

Hear the weekly top ten on Charts and Graphs every Thursday at 4:00 PM on CFUV 101.9FM.

CANADA'S OLYMPIC HOPES EVAPORATE

JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

Canadian forward and former UVic star Katie Rushton (far right) fires a shot at Malaysian goalkeeper Ernawati Mahmud in Olympic field hockey qualifiers on April 29. Mahmud made the save, but Rushton beat her on another shot two minutes into the second half to give Canada a 1-0 victory. The tournament, which started April 26 and runs until May 4 at UVic's field hockey pitch, features six teams — Canada, Malaysia, Italy, Ireland, South Korea and Uruguay — competing for a single berth in the Olympics. As of April 29, Canada could still qualify for the Olympics, but it's an unlikely prospect. Canada would have to win its remaining matches against South Korea, which outscored opponents 20-0 in its first three matches, and Uruguay; Italy would have to lose to South Korea; Ireland would have to lose to South Korea and Italy; and Canada would have to beat South Korea again in the finals.

RESEARCH ROUNDUP

Colluding judges doctor results

David Karp

Sports fans aren't the only ones who get excited about the Olympics and the NHL playoffs — researchers love sports too; they're a great source of data and information. The Martlet has sifted through piles of sports research to bring you a snapshot of some the most interesting studies to date.

Arbitrary arbitration

Figure skating judges alter their scores to conform to other judges' scores, a study in the Journal of Sport Economics claims.

Author Jungmin Lee, a labour economics professor at Florida International University, found that judges try to choose scores close to their counterparts, especially when their scores for the previous skater were very different from their colleagues'. Judges try to pick similar scores because they are responding to criteria used to evaluate their own performance, Lee suggested, adding that this trend hurts the skaters who performed the best.

"The case of figure skating judging clearly shows that there is a bias toward agreement, because the degree of agreement among judges is used as a measure of reliability of the evaluations and to assess individual judges themselves," the study said. "Judges tend to rank skaters in accordance with preperformance information, putting less weight on the actual competition."

Lee also found that female judges are more generous on average than male judges, but that male figure skaters tend to receive higher scores than female and pairs skaters. Judges also tend to favour skaters from their own country.

The article, published in April, examined 9,573 scores from the 2001, 2002 and 2003 World Figure Skating Championships.

Move over, steroids

An editorial in April's Scandinavian Journal of Medicine and Science in Sports cautions against the possibility of "gene doping" — the misuse of gene therapy to enhance athletic performance.

"Since 1998, when the concept of using gene manipulation for doping was first introduced, it has been anticipated that one day we will see athletes exploiting gene modifications to enhance performance," the article said. "At present, we are still waiting for the first case, but few people doubt that the day will arise."

Gene doping can be achieved through an injection into muscles, potentially altering genes that regulate hormones, growth, or other attributes that affect performance.

However, while the process is "surprisingly simple," gene doping would be costly and potentially dangerous since it would be done under the table, the editorial suggests. Author Peter Schjerling, a biomedical professor at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark, warns that, since no test exists, "we cannot know if gene doping is already in use," though he adds that no evidence indicates any athletes are gene doping.

Head trip

A study published in Research in Sports Medicine earlier this year may shed light on the rising rate of head injuries in the NHL. The concussion rate from the 1997-98 to the 2001-02 seasons was triple that of the decade before.

The study found that a player's time on the ice was a significant predictor of concussions. Those who played more than 15 minutes and 13 seconds per game were almost seven times more likely to get a concussion than those who played less. However, while time on the ice per game was important, playing more minutes over the course of a season was not.

"These findings suggest that there is an in-game fatigue factor that may contribute to concussions, rather than a seasonal fatigue," the study claimed, adding that the average number of shifts per game and shorthanded or power play time were statistically insignificant in predicting concussions.

The authors suggest that steps such as making helmets mandatory have been ineffective, and factors such as bigger players, harder boards and improved diagnosis may explain the increased rate of concussions. The article was authored by researchers at Montclair State University, New York University and the University of Montreal, using data from the 2001-02 season.

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ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY, MAY 1

P/Op!

All Day Event

University Centre, B115

For the first time, the Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery presents an exhibit featuring works by local and internationally renowned artists in the pop, optical and abstract art genres.

Pop art is a Twentieth-century art movement that embraces mass consumerism, often in attempts to undermine it, while op art is the interaction between illusion and picture plane, between understanding and seeing. Both genres promise an exciting, colourful and dynamic range that reflects modern art and abstraction in ways the gallery never has. Through a collaborative curatorial process, we have produced a strong showcase of recent acquisitions by Harry Stanbridge, Eric Metcalfe and Carl Beam. Works by Roy Lichtenstein, Jasper John and Andy Warhol bring the show to an international level.

Ends September 22, 2008

Fee: Free
Info: Aubrey Emlyn
721-6562

Macbeth: A Civil War of the Mind

All Day Event

McPherson Library, Main Floor Gallery

The Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery is pleased to present "Macbeth: a Civil War of the Mind" opening on Thursday, April 3. This exhibit features paintings of Wade Stout and his unique representations of Shakespeare's Macbeth from an artist's viewpoint. Combining classical drama, Tarot, mythology and the culture of the early 17th century with modern symbolism, Stout recreates an accessible Shakespeare spanning layers of meaning and media.

Macbeth: a Civil War of the Mind runs from April 3 to May 31, 2008 in the McPherson Library Gallery. The Gallery is open Monday to Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Fee: Free.
Info: Aubrey Emlyn
721-6562

FRIDAY, MAY 2

UVic Unity: Inclusive Youth Leadersip Retreat

All Day Event

Tower residence building, R41

UVic Unity is a 3-day, 2-night overnight workshop retreat involving a series of interactive presentations and workshops designed to actively engage youth interested in community activism and advocacy. This event is open to all mature high school students, of any and all orientations and identities.
This retreat focuses on educating students about the personal, community, and advocacy issues that affect both society and queer persons today.

The workshops are each being facilitated by local community & campus organizations, including such university groups as the Women's Centre, Students Of Colour Collective, Anti-Violence Project, Equity & Human Rights Office, and Counseling Services; topics explored include the effects of homophobia, transphobia, racism, disability, and violence in society, with a focus on promoting positive peer interaction skills and community leadership. We will also be introducing students to the other advocacy and service organizations at UVic, and assisting them in better understanding and feeling comfortable with campus life in general.

Oh, and we will try to add in some fun, too!

Fee: Approximately $15
Info: Kelley Logue
472-4393

Western Canadian Conference on Computing Education

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Engineering/Computer Science Building

The Western Canadian Conference on Computing Education brings together people from universities, colleges, industry, and government to discuss issues related to computing education. The two day conference provides a forum for sharing teaching methods, instructional technologies, and educational experiences. Please join us on May 2nd to explore computing education.

Fee: Regular $50
Student $25
Info: Michael Zastre
zastre@cs.uvic.ca

SATURDAY, MAY 3

31st Making Tomorrow Conference

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Student Union Building

"Healthy Kids Healthy Planet" Saturday May 3rd. A day of learning for educators and parents presented by the Vancouver Island Cooperative Prescholl Association. Over 25 expert instructors offer practical 90 minute workshops.

Registration info and workshop info at www.vicpa.org/html or call 595-4456.

Fee: General $60
Students/VICPA $50
Info: Caroline Herbert
carolineherbert@uvic.ca

SUNDAY, MAY 4

Community-University Exposition 2008

All Day Event

MacLaurin Building

We would first like to acknowledge that we will be meeting on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish First Nations. We would like to most cordially invite you to participate in the third national CUexpo, the Community-University Exposition 2008 (CUexpo 2008) May 4-7, 2008. We invite you to submit a proposal for a presentation or simply to come to learn about exciting community-campus research and action initiatives from across Canada and elsewhere in the world. Community-engaged scholarship, knowledge exchange for making a difference in areas of sustainability, poverty, housing and homelessness, healthy living, climate change, community economic development, social economy, food security, arts based activism, Aboriginal leadership in research are but a few of the areas to be touched. Come share your ideas, experiences, struggles and successes.

Fee: $475 Canadian, or
$250 for students
Info: Mary O'Rouke
472-4171
maireco@telus.net

Science and Civic Engagement Symposium

All Day Event

David F. Strong Building, C103

The Science and Civic Engagement Symposium will bring together national and international science researchers and educators for a one-day workshop that aims at increasing public engagement and interest in Science. Keynote speakers will give presentations on various projects and science initiatives that are taking place at UVic, across Canada, and around the world. Increasing Science literacy in the public and Science Education will be a major focus for many of the presentations.

Fee: Free
Info: Laura Milne
472-4377
kts@uvic.ca

The Local-Global Green Map Roundtable

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Social Sciences and Math Building, B215

A pre-CUExpo08 open event with special guest Green Mapmakers from the Cuban-Latin America Network and Green Map's global headquarters! For all those involved or interested in community and Green Mapmaking, please take part.

RSVP to Sarah Dickie at ocbr@uvic.ca by April 30th.

Fee: Free
Info: Sarah Dickie
472-4171
ocbr@uvic.ca

The Food and Farm Tour of the Peninsula

1 - 4:30 p.m.

R. Haig Brown Building, Parking lot 5

In less than 50 years the region has turned from being virtually self-sufficient to importing over 90% of its food. In addition over 50,000 people in Greater Victoria are accessing emergency food services.

On this tour you will get out and about and see the beautiful area we live in. You will have the opportunity to see first hand how local farmers and folks are working together to revitalize the food and agriculture sector, see and hear about a wide range of food action and community economic development projects. The tour will be hosted by LifeCycles and the Capital Region Food and Agriculture Initiatives Roundtable.

Tour departs from and returns to Lot #5 (behind residences)

Fee: $47.25 ($45.00 & $2.25 GST)
Info: Mary O'Rouke
maireco@telus.net

Dockside Green tour

1:30 – 4 p.m.

R. Haig Brown Building, Parking lot 5

Dockside Green, Victoria, is the first LEED™ Platinum targeted community in the world and an innovative design that exceeds Model National Energy Code requirements by 45-55%. The development comprises a 15-acre harbourfront community made up of three distinct neighbourhoods created around the principles of smart growth, green building and sustainable community design emphasizing beauty. Dockside Green includes mixed-use development featuring residential, light industrial, retail and commercial space. It features lush landscaping that blends nature into an urban setting and includes creaks and ponds, green roofs, a central greenway and natural waterway that play's a major role in the management of storm water. through an online interface.

ITINERARY:
1:30 pm Depart UVic, Parking Lot #5 (behind residences)
2:00 pm Meet at site, corner of Wilson and Tyee Road
2:15 pm Begin site visit and walk about
3:15 pm Finish site visit and Q&A
3:30 pm Arrive at Presentation centre
4:00 pm Finish visit & return to UVic

Fee: $15.75 per person
($15.00 & $.75 GST)
Info: Mary O'Rouke
maireco@telus.net

Burnside Gorge Community Centre tour

1:30 – 4 p.m.

R. Haig Brown Building, Parking lot 5

The new Burnside Gorge Community Centre includes a family centre, youth centre, activity centre, child care centre and outdoor playground, a kitchen as well as meeting rooms for the community to rent – all under one roof.

The new Centre replaces three buildings – an old warehouse and two portables. The new facility will double the 40,000 people the Centre sees each year in its Family and Housing Services, Youth and Child Care Centre and Community Recreation and Education services. The Centre will enable the Burnside Gorge Community Association to provide a higher level of service to both the neighbourhood and Greater Victoria residents, reinforcing pride and ownership in the community.

Transportation leaves and returns to Lot #5 behind the UVic Residences

Fee: $21.00 per person
($20.00 & $1.00 GST)
Info: Mary O'Rouke
maireco@telus.net

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

Capacity Counts

All Day Event

MacLaurin Building, Main lobby

May 7-9, 2008 the Canadian Council on Learning's Health and Learning Knowledge Centre is inviting 100 professionals, researchers, and practitioners to join the "Capacity Counts" conversation.

The goals of this symposium are to describe the building and sustaining of more coordinated, cost effective, accessible health, education and learning systems; discuss challenges, future directions, research; strengthen capacity building health education and learning systems networks; identify knowledge exchange opportunities.

Fee: Free
Info: Emma Carter
721-7833
ecarter@uvic.ca

Paulo Wangoola: Mother Tongue Scholarship and the Future of Afrika

12 - 1 p.m.

David F. Strong Building, C130

The African Partnerships Network at UVic, the Victoria International Development Education Association (VIDEA) and UVic's Office of Community-Based Research are pleased to invite you to a talk by Paulo Wangoola.

Paulo Wangoola, the Nabyama of Mpambo, is a practical visionary who brings a story of a unique way forward for Afrika, a vision of hope and some magic from the ageless traditions of Afrikan indigenous thought. Mpambo, the Afrikan Multiversity (a village-based institution of higher education and research based in Isegoro village, Iganga District, Kingdom of Busoga, Eastern Uganda) was founded to support the revitalization and regeneration of Mother Tongue scholarship working with Clan Elders, Spiritual Leaders and Community Wise Women and Men as scholars in a unique place of learning.

Paulo Wangoola is in Victoria and Vancouver as part of a fund-raising visit to support the construction and funishing of a unique House of Indigenous Cultures and Spirituality that will bring indigenous scholars from Afrika and the world together in the construction of new paths of development and hope.

Fee: Free
Info: Sabine Lehr
472-4028
slehr@uvic.ca

The Hydrogen Defense Against Climate Catastrophe

7 - 9 p.m.

Harry Hickman Building, 105

Dr. David Scott, professor emeritus in UVic's mechanical engineering department and the founding director of UVic's Institute for Integrated Energy Systems, is an international expert on hydrogen. His lecture will discuss how hydrogen and electricity can provide for the full menu of civilization's energy needs.

Please call 721-6369 to confirm your place.

Fee: Free.
Info: Lindsay Cassie
721-6369
lcassie@uvic.ca

THURSDAY, MAY 8

Snitchel Tour

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

R. Haig Brown Building, Parking lot 5

Snitcel (pronounced "Sneakwith") is the Sencoten word for "The Place of Blue Grouse."
The goal of the day is to demonstrate the kinds of community building that occurs when focus is on the ecological and cultural restoration of a loved and cherished Place.

Activities will include an ethnobotanical walk by First Nations Tsawaout community members, a demonstration of a watershed model of that site, a tour of the restoration efforts of a wetland and native plant areas, and an eelgrass planting hands-on demonstration.

Fee includes transportation with leader, lunch and tour fee.

Fee: $ 47.00 ($45.00 plus $2.00 GST)
Info: Mary O'Rouke
maireco@telus.net

SUNDAY, MAY 11

2008 UVic Plant Sale

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

McKinnon Gym

Come to the 30th annual UVic Plant Sale and choose from an incredible array of everything you'll need to make your garden even more beautiful.

As always, net proceeds support the ongoing development of the Finnerty Gardens at UVic. Arrive early for the best selection, and bring along the boxes you'll need to bring your new additions home.

The UVic Plant Sale is presented by the Friends of Finnerty Gardens.

Fee: Free
Info: Shirley Lyon
slyon@uvic.ca

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Cosmic-Nad: A Kathak Dance Performance

7 - 10 p.m.

MacLaurin Building, B125

University of Victoria's student club, Society for Indian Classical Arts (SICA) presents a Kathak dance performance on Sunday May 18, 2008. Kathak is an elegant classical dance forms from North India. Cosmic Nad (http://cosmic-nad.com) is a group from Pune, India consisting of 3 dancers (Kaveri Agashe, Sheetal Kolwalkar and Ketaki Phadke-Shah) and 2 musicians. Vocals by Shekar Kumbhojkar and Ajinkya Joshi on Tabla provide live music to the concert.

The dancers are young achievers in the field of 'Kathak'. They have been trained for many years at 'Nad-Roop' under the renowned Kathak Guru Smt. Shama Bhate, at Pune, India. Their common experiences made them come together to create COSMIC-NĀD.

Don't miss this opportunity to watch Cosmic-Nad perform varied series of solos, duets and group performances with a regular Kathak dance format and also with a subtle blend of world music. More information can be found on Uvic SICA's website located at: http://uvicsica.googlepages.com/

Fee: $15
Info: 472-5733
sganti@cs.uvic.ca

THURSDAY, MAY 22

Lansdowne Lecture: Dr. Richard Hobbs

7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

David F. Strong Building, 103

Invasive species, novel ecosystems and no analogue futures: challenges for restoration theory and practice.

Fee: Free
Info: V Schaefer
472-4387
vschaefer@uvic.ca

SATURDAY, MAY 24

Experience UVic 2008

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Check-in located in tents in front of Student Union Building

Test drive your campus on Saturday, May 24th at Experience UVic. This free event is for prospective students and their parents.

You will meet faculty members, staff and alumni. get advice on choosing your classes, discover academic and career opportunities, discuss financial aid, explore your campus and talk to current students to find out what it's like to study at UVic, option to stay in an on-campus residence bedroom for $26/person/night or a four bedroom apartment for $112/night. Students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

For more information and to register, please visit us online at www.uvic.ca/experience

Fee: Free
Info: Jaie Skalin
853.3512
jskalin@uvic.ca

SUNDAY, MAY 25

Women's Golf: RCGA Canadian Championships

6 - 8 p.m.

Cordova Bay G&C

Come and cheer on UVic at the RCGA Canadian Championships.

Related Website: http://vikes.uvic.ca/schedules/index.php?teamid=95#comingup

Fee: Free
Info: Mike Tucker
721-8725
vikes@uvic.ca

Men's Golf: RCGA Canadian Championships

6 - 8 p.m.

Cordova Bay G&C

Come and cheer on UVic at the RCGA Canadian Championships.

Related Website: http://vikes.uvic.ca/schedules/index.php?teamid=96#comingup

Fee: Free
Info: Mike Tucker
721-8725
vikes@uvic.ca

LIVE CONCERTS

THURSDAY, MAY 1

Sarah Slean, Guests TBA @ Alix Goolden Performance Hall

7 p.m.

Tickets available at Lyle's Place, Ditch Records & Cds, and www.ticketweb.ca. (All Ages).

Fee: $25.00

METAL MAYHEM! mother died today, Archon Legion, Compound Terror @ Evolution

9 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Tickets available at Old School Tattoos. (No Minors).

Fee: $8 Door - $6 Advance

EARLY SHOW Alex Cuba Band @ Lucky Bar

7 p.m.

Tickets available at Lyle's Place or online at www.hightideconcerts.net. (No Minors).

Fee: $20 Advance
$20 Door

CHAMPION SOUND with DJs Verse & Murge @ Lucky Bar

10 p.m.

DJs Verse & Murge (formerly Strifry) present Champion Sound - the Ultimate Mashup! A weekly four hour four turntablized mixmash of music to make your booty move! (No Minors).

Fee: $5

Queens Of The Stone Age, Guests TBA @ Save On Foods Memorial Centre

6:30 p.m.

Tickets available at Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre Box Office. (All Ages).

Fee: $38.50

Blake Andison, DayInTheLife @ The Solstice Cafe

7 p.m.

CD release party for *Will Yesterday Fade Away*. (All Ages).

Fee: Free

Acres of Lions, Cobras Cobras Cobras, Fridge Hum @ Sugar

10 p.m. - 2 a.m., doors at 9 p.m.

It's a celebration! It's Lauren A's Birthday! She and Matt are finally a team! (No Minors).

Fee: $8

FRIDAY, MAY 2

Trole (members of The Matadors), The Vicious Cycles, Toaster Bath @ Lucky Bar

10 p.m.

Tickets available at Lyle's Place, ticketweb.ca, Lucky Bar, and Sideshow/Era. (No Minors).

Fee: $10 advance

The Manhattan Project @ Manhattan The Club

9 p.m. - 1 a.m., doors at 7 p.m.

Manhattan's House band plays the stuff you wanna dance to. (No Minors).

Fee: $6

Stephen Malkmus & The Jicks, The Joggers @ Sugar

9:30 p.m. - 12 a.m., doors at 8 p.m.

Tickets available at Ditch Records & CDs and Lyle's Place. (No Minors).

Fee: $18 advance

SATURDAY, MAY 3

Wharf Street Band @ 17 Mile House

8:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Wharf Street makes their First appearance at the 17 Mile House Pub. This promises to be a very happening evening of Classic Rock favourites and Groovin Blues tunes. The House is a Rockin' indeed. (No Minors).

Fee: Free

The Dayglo Abortions, Alcoholic White Trash, Frostbacks, Lesbian Fist Magnet @ The Big Fernwood Community Centre

7:30 - 11 p.m., doors at 7 p.m.

Tickets available at Lyle's Place, Sideshow/Era and ticketweb.ca. (All Ages)

Fee: $12 advance

The Shores @ Black Stilt Coffee House

7 - 10 p.m., doors at 5 p.m.

Tickets at the door. (All Ages).

Fee: $3

Surge Ahead presents: Surfrider Foundation Party Shane Philip, Corwin Fox @ Sugar

9:15 p.m. - 2 a.m., doors at 9 p.m.

The Surfrider Foundation is one of the largest international non-profit organizations that are dedicated to protecting our oceans for the enjoyment of all. Proceeds will be going towards Surfrider.

There will be give aways, free swag and a Surf Movie premier that will blow your mind. Tickets will go fast at this price. (No Minors).

Fee: $12.50 Advance
$15 Door

THURSDAY, MAY 8

Buck 65, Cadence Weapon, The Skratch Bastid @ Alix Goolden Performance Hall

8 p.m., doors at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets available at Lyle's Place, Ditch Records & CDs and www.ticketweb.ca. (All Ages).

Fee: $20

CHAMPION SOUND with DJs Verse & Murge @ Lucky Bar

10 p.m.

DJs Verse & Murge (formerly Strifry) present Champion Sound - the Ultimate Mashup! A weekly four hour four turntablized mixmash of music to make your booty move! (No Minors).

Fee: $5

FRIDAY, MAY 9

The Manhattan Project @ Manhattan The Club

9 p.m. - 1 a.m., doors at 7 p.m.

Manhattan's House band plays the stuff you wanna dance to. (No Minors).

Fee: $6

SATURDAY, MAY 10

French turbo-jazz-folk-punk duo return to Victoria! Vialka, Automatic Shock, dj Dodo - exotic rock & jazz @ Logan's Pub

10 p.m., doors at 8 p.m.

Come on down for a night of truly unique underground mayhem! (No Minors).

Fee: $10.00

Bourbon Street & Al Capones reunion party T. B. A., DJ Kevin @ Manhattan The Club

9 p.m. - 1 a.m., doors at 7 p.m.

The best danceable 70's, 80's and 90's rock delivered by Manhattan the Club's own atomic-powered house band. (No Minors).

Fee: $6

THURSDAY, MAY 15

Gurkhas, Hollydene, Lacking Tact @ Evolution

9 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Tickets available at Old School Tattoos. (No Minors).

Fee: $8 at the door
$6 advance

CHAMPION SOUND with DJs Verse & Murge @ Lucky Bar

10 p.m.

DJs Verse & Murge (formerly Strifry) present Champion Sound - the Ultimate Mashup! A weekly four hour four turntablized mixmash of music to make your booty move! (No Minors).

Fee: $5

FRIDAY, MAY 16

Grave Maker's Return! Grave Maker, A Crow's Glory, Ill Intent, Mayday!Mayday!, Mt. Crushmore @ James Bay Community Centre

8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Grave Maker returns to Victoria after their Central America Tour along with the return to Victoria of A Crow's Glory and Ill Intent. (All Ages).

Fee: $8

SATURDAY, MAY 17

"A MOONLIGHT SERENADE" Swiftsure Big Band, Miranda Sage @ Pacific Fleet Club

8 - 11 p.m., doors at 8 p.m.

Tickets available at akclarke@telus.net, 592-0477 (No Minors).

Fee: $15.00

Tokyo Police Club, Attack In Black, Smoosh @ Sugar

9 p.m.

Tickets available at Lyle's Place, Ditch Records & CDs, www.ticketweb.ca. (No Minors).

Fee: $18

THURSDAY, MAY 22

Alcoholic White Trash, Lesbian Fist Magnet, The Hoosegow, Brewtality @ Evolution

9 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Tickets available at Old School Tattoos. (No Minors).

Fee: $8 Door
$6 Advance

City and Colour, Sleep Car, Black Lungs @ Royal Theatre

8 p.m.

Tickets available at the McPherson Box Office, by phone at 1.888.717.6121 or online at www.rmts.bc.ca. (All Ages).

Fee: $30

FRIDAY, MAY 23

Yoshida Bros @ Alix Goolden Performance Hall

8 - 10 p.m., doors at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets available at the MacPherson Box Office. (All Ages).

Fee: Adult $33.50
Student $28

SATURDAY, MAY 24

'Voodoo Hairdoo' CD Release Concert Five Alarm Funk @ Sugar

10 p.m. - 1:30 a.m., doors at 9 p.m.

Tickets available at Lyle's Place (Cash Only, 770 Yates St.) 382-8422 and online at www.hightideconcerts.net. (No Minors).

Fee: $16

THURSDAY, MAY 29

5 Minute Wait, Fineas Gage @ Evolution

9 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Tickets available at Old School Tattoos. (No Minors).

Fee: $7 door
$5 advanced

FRIDAY, MAY 30

The Von Bondies, The Paper Cranes @ Sugar

9 p.m.

Tickets available at Lyle's Place, Ditch Records & CDs, www.ticketweb.ca. (No Minors).

Fee: $12

SATURDAY, MAY 31

Welome to the Funhouse! @ Lucky Bar

8:30 p.m., doors at 8 p.m.

Tickets available at Lyle's Place (No Minors).

Fee: $12 advance
$15 door

ON THE TOWN

THURSDAY, MAY 1

Bastion Square Public Market

10:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Bastion Square

This year Bastion Square is alive with street artists, artisans and other vendors seven days a week.

Island Chef Collaborative will also operate their wonderful local fresh produce stall on both Thursdays and Fridays, starting in June.

Fee: Free
Info: bastionsquare@gmail.com

Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival

Various venues throughout Victoria

Applaud the future! 5,000 of Victoria's best young performing musicians, singers, dancers and actors perform daily throughout the festival at venues all around Victoria.

The program highlights include eight honours concerts in music theatre, strings, piano, vocal, dance and choral as well as the Roberto and Mary Wood Scholarship concerts.

For detailed information please call the number below or follow the web link.

Festival ends May 10.

Fee: $20
Info: 385-9223

SATURDAY, MAY 3

35th Opening of The Errington Farmers Market

All Day

Errington - Approximately 150kms north of Victoria

Come and help us celebrate the 35th Opening of our Market. There will be entertainment, produce, crafts and a coffee shop. We will also be opening our new bandshell in the park.

Fee: Free
Info: Susanne Vigneault 954-2922

Gordon Head Art Studio Tour

11 a.m. - 4 p.m., May 3 - May 4

Various locations

Here is your chance to have a free 'behind the scenes peek' at local Gordon Head artists' studios. This years artists include: Kristi Bridgeman, Garry Curry, Sandra Fowler, Les Funk, Ester Galac, Alistair Green, Nirmala Greenwell, John Holm, Alison Kobylnyk, Olga Lang, Judi MacLeod, Ritha Mason, Jim McFarland, Joanne Taylor and Marney Ward. Brochures with maps will be available at various community-minded businesses and Recreation Centres.

Fee: Free
Info: Kristi Bridgeman 477-7464 kristibridge@shaw.ca

Mostly Mozart Festival

Royal Theatre, Alix Goolden Performance Hall and Market Square

Now in its third year, the Victoria Symphony presents the Mostly Mozart Festival that celebrates the works of Mozart and his contemporaries. For detailed event information please call or visit the website shown below. Festival runs from May 3 - May 12.

Fee: $19.75 - $54.75
Info: Victoria Symphony 385-9771

FRIDAY, MAY 9

French Film Fest

Victor Brodeur School, 637 Head Street

La Longue Nuit du Court is a cross-Canada film fest showcasing French language and French subtitled short films. The night will feature the best of Canadian shorts.

Hosted by the Victoria Francophone Society and organized by Montreal based Video Festif, Victoria is the last stop for the festival tour this year. This is the 3rd year in a row that the Francophone Society welcomes this cutting edge festival to Victoria. Hope to see all of you French speaking and movie loving people there.

Info: Angie Theilmann 388-7350

SATURDAY, MAY 10

Tartan Parade

Time TBA

The Tartan Parade of local and visiting pipe bands and highland dancers begins at the Legislative Building and marches up Government Street to Centennial Square for demonstrations of more singing, piping and country dancing.

All this is in preparation for the new Celtic Festival and the 71st Highland Games scheduled for next weekend at its new location at Topaz Park (Blanshard and Finlayson).

Activities will include dance, bagpipe and drum competitions, pipe bands, caber throwing, heavy eventchampionship, historical display, entertainment, and Celtic food.

Info: 598-0120

6th Annual Quadra Village Day

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast at Vancouver Island School of Art; 12:00 - 4:00pm Activities at Wark Park

Wark Park, 900-941 Kings Road

Come join local Hillside-Quadra residents at its 6th Annual Quadra Village Day. This free, fun event brings neighbours and the larger community together to celebrate the Quadra Village area.

Experience a variety of fun activities for all ages: pancake breakfast, arts and crafts, live music and comedy performances, children activities, Farmer's Market, a celebration of a community garden and a showcase of a variety of local merchants and service providers.

Fee: Free
Info: Michelle Noordhof 388-7696

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Celtic Festival and Highland Games

All Day May 17 - May 18

Topaz Park, at the corner of Blanshard and Finlayson

The new Celtic Festival along with the 71st Highland Games will feature dance, bagpipe and drum competitions, pipebands, caber throwing, a heavy event championship, historical display, entertainment, and Celtic food.

Fee: Saturday $5 Adult, $4 Senior/Youth
Sunday $8 Adult, $6 Senior/Youth,
Special Deal - 2 Day Ticket Price: $10 Adult, $8 Senior/Youth
(Children under 12 free)
Info: 598-0120

A Moonlight Serenade: The Swiftsure Big Band and Miranda Sage

8 - 11 p.m.

The Pacific Fleet Club, 1587 Lyall Street, at the end of Esquimalt Road

With a large dance floor, a magnificent view of the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the sweet but dynamic sounds of the SWIFTSURE BIG BAND the scene is set for a fine evening of dancing at the Fleet Club. Throw in a full moon and you have a perfect setting for a wonderful evening of great dancing to the finest tunes from the Big Band era - In The Mood, Tuxedo Junction, String of Pearls, Chattanooga Choo Choo, Opus One and many, many more.

The Swiftsure Big Band has been providing dance music to the Greater Victoria Area, including some of the Gulf Islands for 14 years. They have performed in every major venue.

The 18 talented musicians who comprise the band have perfected their own unique blend of big band sounds, to which is added the sultry alto voice of Miranda Sage, who is quite possibly the finest vocalist on Vancouver Island.

Under the precise direction of Rob Bannister, himself a lifelong professional musician, the SWIFTSURE BIG BAND, provides a solid, steady dance beat for the great classics of Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Stan Kenton, Count Basie , Les Browne and others. Jive, Fox Trot, Two Step, Latin, Waltz, etc.

Tickets must be purchased in advance, as there will be no sales at the door.

Fee: $15
Info: Alan Clarke or Ken Wodlinger 592-0477 or 479-6108 akclarke@telus.net

MONDAY, MAY 19

Island Farms Victoria Day Parade

Time TBA

Downtown Victoria along Douglas Street This is Victoria's largest parade event with marching bands, floats, clowns, etc. Over 120,000 spectators watch this popular annual event in person and on television. Lots of fun for the whole family.

Info: Victoria Festivals Society 382-3111

Victoria Day Paddle

Celebrate Victoria Day with a guided kayak tour of the Inner Harbour. See ocean liners, dolphins, whales, submarines, Gilligan and the Skipper too (no promises).

As space is limited please register early to reserve your spot. Please call for all further details.

Fee: $25.00 per person. Cost includes ice cream at Jackson's.
Info: Gorge Rowing and Paddling Centre 380-4668

THURSDAY, MAY 22

Uno Festival of Solo Performance

May 22 - May 24

Various downtown Victoria venues including Metro Studio

Uno is a curated festival dedicated to one-person shows. Suddenly Dance Theatre is pleased to announce that its new award program Unodanz will be featured at UNO.

To reflect the spirit of dance-based invention UNODANZ creates another quality performance opportunity for independent dance artists to showcase their work within a juried international festival.

This year's inaugural program features three distinct dance works:

Avenue of Butterflies (20 mins, Live; Victoria) Directed by Shelly Tognazzini, performed by Lisa Milloy.

Bare Handed (26 mins, Dance on Film; Belgium) Directed by Thierry Knauff, choreographed and performed by Michèle Noiret.

Song (25 mins, Live; Toronto). Choreographed by DA Hoskins, performed by Danielle Baskerville.

Info: Janet Munsil 383-2663

SUNDAY, MAY 25

Local Food Festival - Defending our Backyard

12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Fort Rodd Hill, Colwood

This event is intended to raise awareness about and the challenges of local food production and the issue of sustainability within the region of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

Many relevant resource groups will be on hand to help promote these issues and educational seminars will be offered on all facets of local food production. Festival participants will include renowned chefs, restaurateurs, local producers and citizens concerned with this important topic.

Live entertainment combined with great local food and drinks will ensure a great day our for families and all attendees.

Tickets are available through your local VQA shops and ICC members restaurants

Info: The Island Chefs Collaborative chefs@islandchef scollaborative.com

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

Cirque du Soleil - Saltimbanco

Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre

Saltimbanco - from the Italian 'saltare in banco', which literally means 'to jump on a bench'-explores the urban experience in all its myriad forms: the people who live there, their idiosyncrasies and likenesses, families and groups, the hustle and bustle of the street and the towering heights of skyscrapers.

Saltimbanco is a Cirque du Soleil signature show inspired by the urban fabric of the metropolis and its colorful inhabitants.

Performance Dates and Times:
30 May - 7:30 p.m.
31 May - 3:30 p.m.
31 May - 7:30 p.m.
01 June - 1:00 p.m.
01 June - 5:00 p.m.

Tickets will be available from Select Your Tickets in person at Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre Box Office, by phone at 220-7777 or online at www.selectyourtickets.com.

Fee: $40 - $90
Info: 220-7777

FRIDAY, MAY 30

Warhol: Larger than Life

All Day

Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, 1040 Moss Street

Andy Warhol (1928 – 1987) was an American artist associated with the definition of Pop Art. The exhibition was organized by the Winnipeg Art Gallery, with most works borrowed from The Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh. Exhibit ends Aug. 24.

Info: 384-4101

SATURDAY, MAY 31

Selkirk Waterfront Festival

All Day

Gorge Rowing and Paddling Centre, Selkirk Waterfront Celebrate a free day of fun on the waterfront including rowing races, musical performances, family fun fair, vendors and an artisans market. Celebrate the recent return to the rich recreational roots of the Gorge Waterway dating back to the early 1900's.

Fee: Free
Info: 658-6333

VOLUNTEERS

Become a Crisis Line Volunteer with NEED Crisis and Information Line. To find out more contact Volunteer Services at: 386-6328 Ext.222 or www.needcrisis.bc.ca.

National Volunteer Recognition Week: April 27th to May 3rd, 2008.

April 27th to May 3rd is National Volunteer Recognition Week - the largest celebration of volunteers and volunteerism our country has.

Volunteers are on the front lines of all of our community organizations. Without them, so many vital services we all depend upon would not exist. Volunteers are everywhere, doing essential work in community health care, heritage and the arts, protection and maintenance of green space, disaster relief, volunteer firefighting, minor sports - the list is endless.

Join Volunteer Victoria in thanking the one in three Greater Victorians who give an average of 162 hours per year of their time, and talent, and make such a difference in our community!

Go to www.volunteervictoria.bc.ca or call 386-2269 to learn how you can make a difference too. We all have a gift to share - thank you for sharing yours!

CLASSIFIEDS

Paul and Helen Trussell Science and Technology Scholarship – Call for Applications

The British Columbia Innovation Council is once again calling all former Kootenay-Boundary high school graduates to apply for the Paul and Helen Trussell Science and Technology Scholarship, valued at $20,000. Held annually, this is a fantastic opportunity for post-secondary students to take their education to the next level.

Founded by the Trussell family, the scholarship has been awarded to students entering their third year of a science degree at a university or college in B.C. or Alberta. The program's vision is to encourage students studying natural or applied sciences to further their education. This year's deadline to apply is May 30, 2008.

The Trussell Science Student Endowment Fund was established in 1990 with an endowment of $100,000 from Dr. and Mrs. Trussell, matched funding from the Province of British Columbia and a contribution from the Vancouver Foundation.

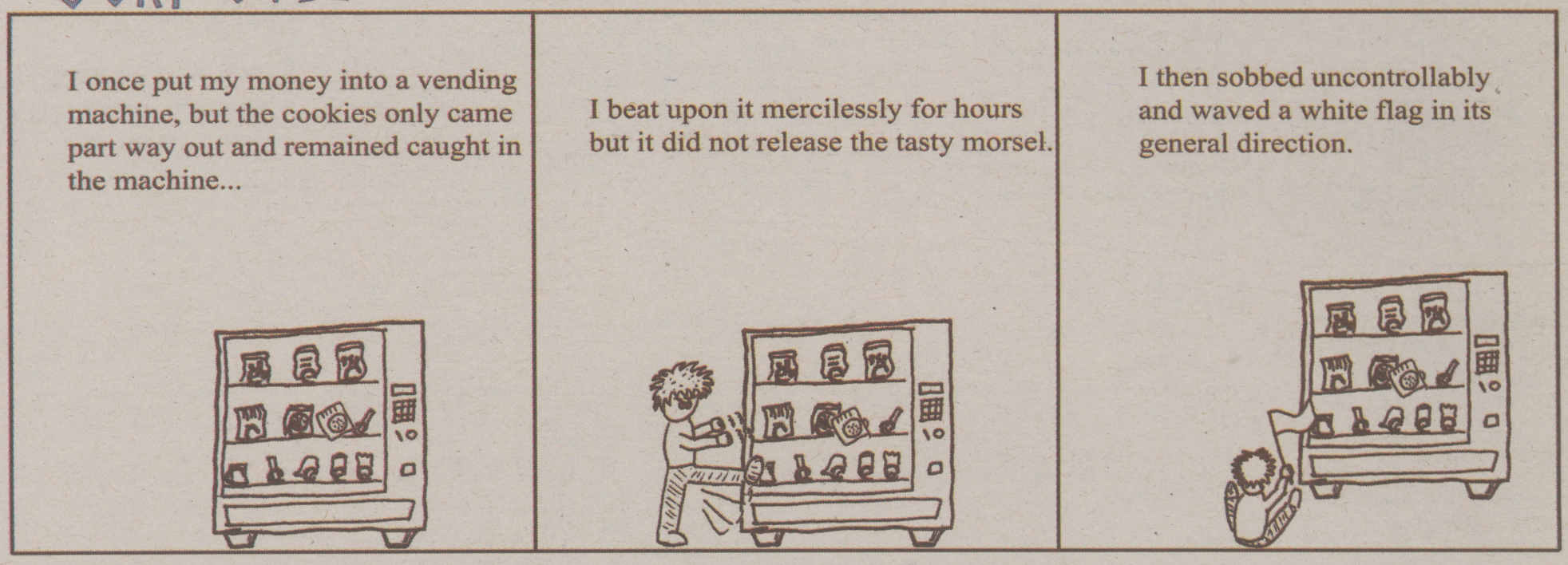
Scholarship details and forms are available at www.bcic.ca/programs.

To submit an event, please e-mail promo@martlet.ca

Comics

CORP EVIL

by Gord Duff


I once put my money into a vending machine, but the cookies only came part way out and remained caught in the machine...
I beat upon it mercilessly for hours but it did not release the tasty morsel.
I then sobbed uncontrollably and waved a white flag in its general direction.

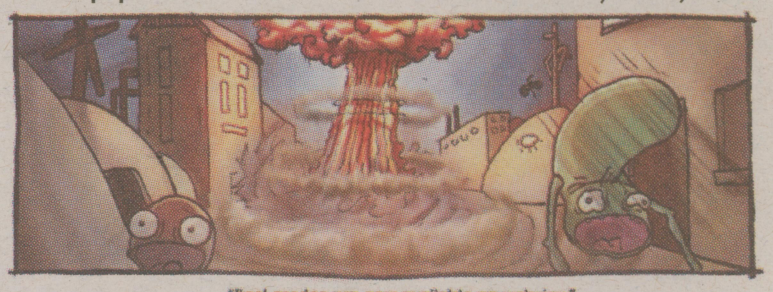
FELIX AND MIA

by Liz Snell

LIFE OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY
SO NOW THAT YOU'VE DECIDED TO BECOME A HIPSTER, WE HAVE TO FIND YOU THE RIGHT CLOTHES. WE'LL START WITH SHOES- THEY CAN DEFINE YOU AT A GLANCE.
HOW ABOUT THESE? THEY'RE COMFY AND SUPER-NEAT!
NO! NOT A CHANCE- NO HIPSTER WOULD WEAR THOSE!
COMFORT DOESN'T MATTER TO YOU ANYMORE, OKAY?
LOOK STACKS, I'LL MAKE THIS EASY ON YOU- MEET THE GREAT EQUALIZER! YOU CAN WEAR THIS SHOE WHETHER YOU'RE A RAPPER, A ROCKSTAR, OR AN EMO KID.
WHAT ABOUT JUST ME?
HAVEN'T YOU BEEN LISTENING? THERE IS NO MORE YOU!

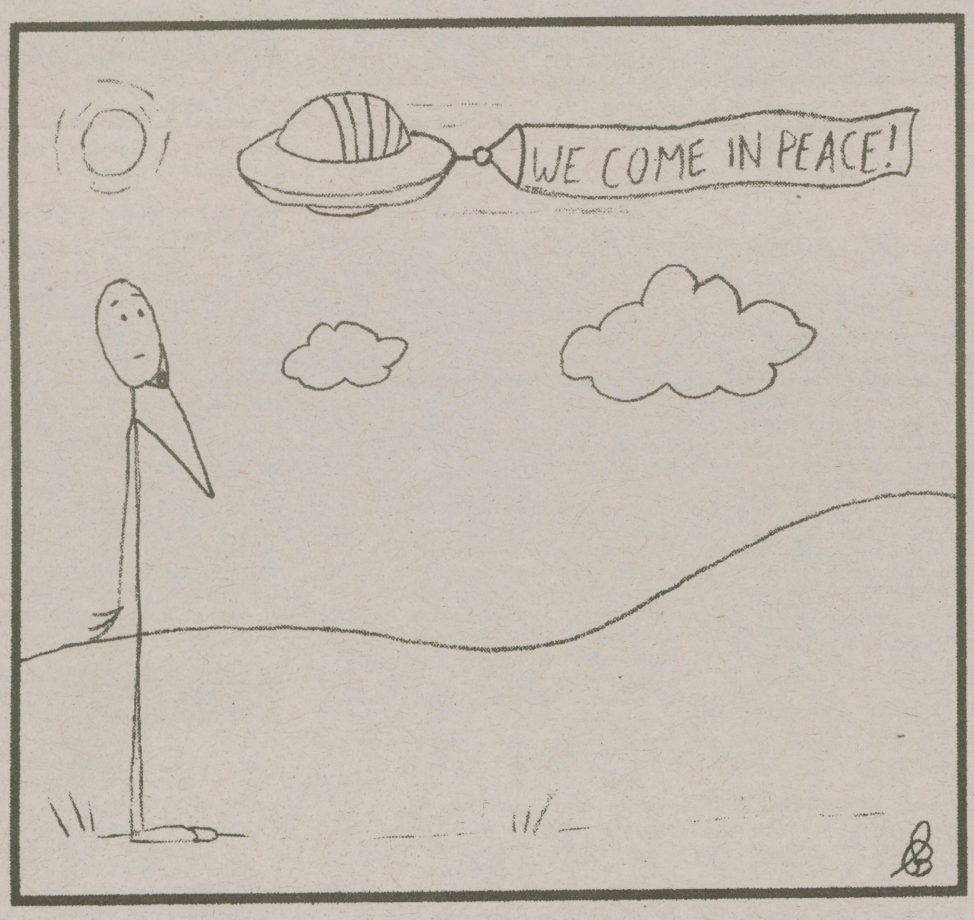
Checkerpop

by Marc Junker

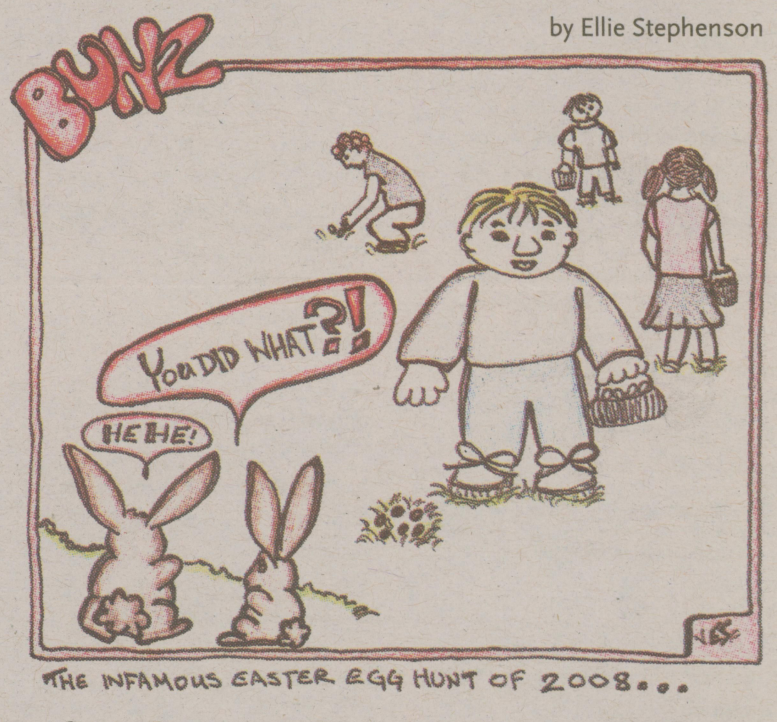


Zippity-Snips

by Sean Behnsen

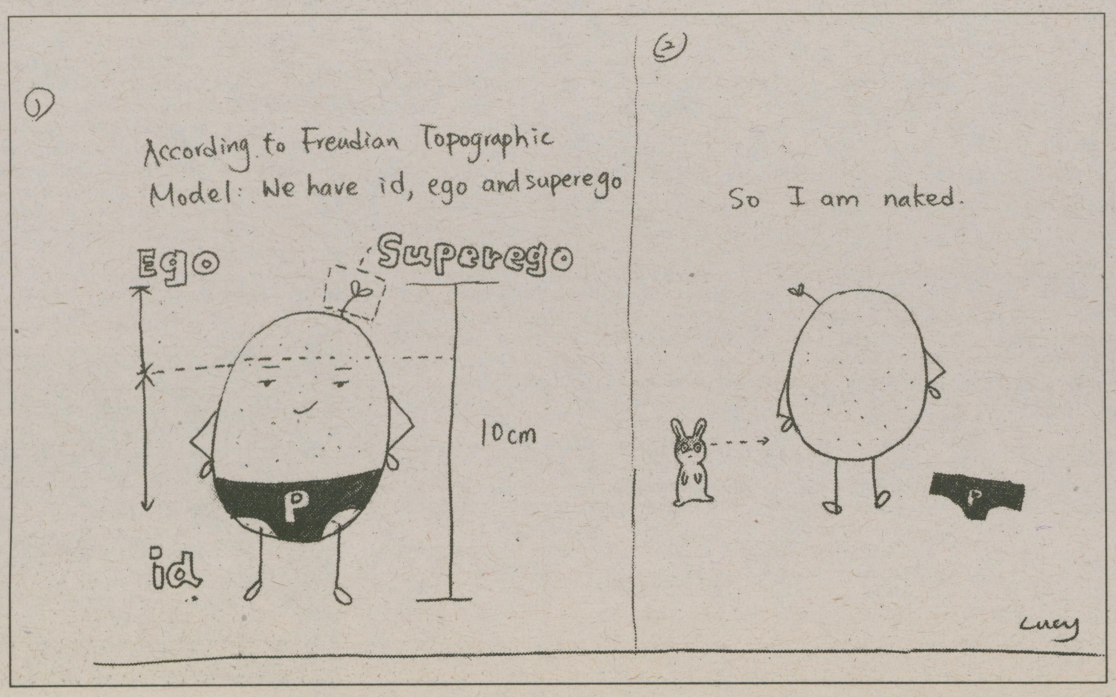


by Ellie Stephenson



Mr. Potato

by Lucy



NOOSEHEAD

NOOSEHEAD
©2007 BY SAM LOGAN.
READ THEM ALL AT: WWW.SAMANDFUZZY.COM
SID! SID, ARE YOU IN THERE?
LOOK... I KNOW I GOT A LITTLE CARRIED AWAY...
...BUT I CAN STILL HELP YOU! JUST GIVE ME A CHANCE!
KNOCK! KNOCK!
NO, EARL. NO MORE HELPING! YOU MANAGE MY BAND, NOT MY LIFE!
FROM NOW ON, I DO WHAT I WANT TO DO, THINK WHAT I WANT TO THINK, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY...
...SING WHAT I WANT TO SING.
AND IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT...
...THEN GO START YOUR OWN BAND!
SLAM!
SEE? ANGRY! JUST LIKE I PROMISED.
GO LIGHT YOUR HEAD ON FIRE, BEAR.